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Mississippi Baptist vols reflect on 9/11

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

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A year ago America and the world watched, transfixed, as the horrendous events of September 11 unfolded on our televisions.

With almost surreal precision, commercial airplanes became weapons of destruction as they crashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and in a field in rural Pennsylvania.

Lives were changed and lives were lost. For a special group of Mississippi Baptists, however, the aftermath of those tragedies was experienced in a visceral, personal way.

For those same Mississippi Baptists, opportunities for unique ministry were

abundant. Several of the volunteers who served on disaster relief teams to Ground Zero, Fresh Kills, and the Pentagon, reflected on their experiences.

Jerry Sanford, pastor of First Church, Sardis, was one of the first to offer aid. Sanford accompanied Jim Didlake, Director of the Men's Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, to the Pentagon immediately after the attack there.

"I helped Jim by serving as a 'white cap' [the term used to designate the lead person at a disaster site] at the Pentagon," Sanford said. "We served as liaisons between the American Red Cross and our feeding operation. We provided meals for the rescue and recovery workers at the site."

Looking back at those days, Sanford said, "Folks

there were just overwhelmed, shocked, and disbelieving. I felt the same. I hurt right along with them."

Sanford has also made two trips to New York City. "I've been a volunteer firefighter for the last 28 years," he said. "My dad was also a firefighter, a pump operator. To see what happened there to fellow firefighters is hard."

Sanford said his church is having a service in remembrance of 9/11. "We've invited other churches, firefighters, police, EMT's, and others to participate," he said. "We just want to be able to hold out some hope to others."

"I want to thank everyone who helped in any way," Sanford stated. "I especially want everyone to remember the (Margaret Lackey) State Mission Offering, because that's what makes it possible for us to go and help."

Donna Swarts, a member of Goodwater Church, Magee, had a different experience. "We went to New York first in October," she said. "This was one of the first times we've ever done any administrative work. We worked in the mayor's emergency operations office. We coordinated the cleanup for the apartments next to Ground Zero. Later, we did the teddy bear operation, providing stuffed animals to the kids of the city. Teddy bears were donated from all over, and our people distributed them."

Swarts also assisted in food services at the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island, where the debris from the attack was taken. When asked to reflect on her experiences, Swarts said, "Just yesterday I was reading an article about a young woman involved in the tragedy, and the tears — the lump in my throat — still came. I'll always remember where I was when Kennedy



ON THE JOB — New York City firefighters respond to what one firefighter called a "routine" fire on the streets of Manhattan. This photo, taken during a Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief team's assignment to the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island, reminds that firefighters are always responsive to emergencies despite the danger. (BR photo by Tony Martin)

was assassinated, but that is a distant memory. What happened on 9/11 has taken its place. I'll always remember where I was.

John Adams, a member of Crossgates Church in Brandon, made his first disaster relief trip to New York City in April. He served on a feeding crew at Ground Zero.

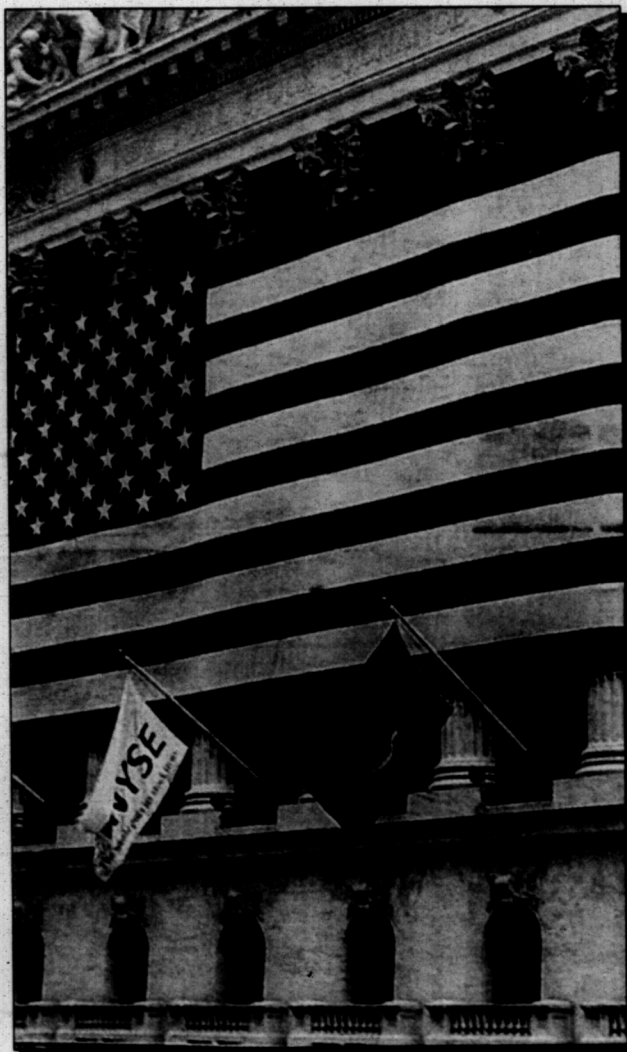
"We served meals to the recovery workers there," said Adams. "We worked eight hour shifts, three shifts a day."

Adams, his voice choking with emotion, said, "It didn't hit me until I got up there. I saw all the hurt, and even now I see the families on TV and it still hurts. It's hard to see how something like that could happen in the name of any religion. You're supposed to help people, not hurt them."

Adams' sentiments, however, were the same as those of many other volunteer workers. "Would I go back? Sure."



NEVER FORGET — Passersby pause and reflect at one of many streetside memorials in New York City commemorating those lost during the attack on the World Trade Center twin towers on September 11, 2001. (BR photo by Tony Martin)



FLYING PROUDLY — The U.S. flag flies in remembrance of the tragedies of 9/11 on the façade of the New York City Stock Exchange in Manhattan. (BR photo by Tony Martin)

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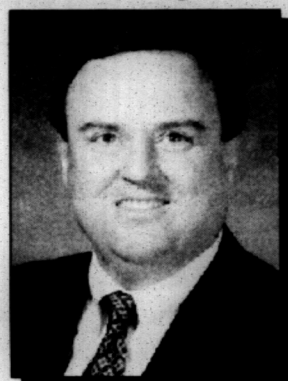
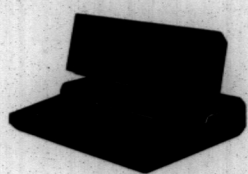
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Shortly after the terrorist attacks of September 11, a Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief worker dropped into a New York City subway seat, weary from a long day of helping the people of that great city recover from the most devastating attack ever on American soil.

A New Yorker entering the subway car spied the relief worker's distinctive yellow jacket and carefully studied the identification badge clipped to the jacket. Then the woman sat down in the seat next to the worker, laid her head on the worker's shoulder, and, feeling safe to do so, began to cry profusely.

Who can measure the river of tears that has flowed through our lives in the year since 9/11? Who can count the sorrow, or quantify the mourning since that day when we watched in horror as four jetliners filled with scores of innocent people were hijacked and used to destroy thousands more innocent people?

Many of us, whether or not we suffered a direct loss from the terrorist attacks, have spent the past twelve months in an often-maddening quest for answers where there are no rational ones. What twisted logic would lead a group of people to believe they were doing God's will by killing innocent people by the thousands? How could anyone believe they would be blessed with virgins in heaven for blind hatred and the mass murder of men, women, and children they didn't even know?

What perverse ochlocracy of religious fanatics would gloat over the incredible loss of life and destruction, and give God the glory for such carnage? What sick religious leaders would absolve the murderers and condemn the victims? Who would dance in the streets in celebration of the shedding of innocent blood?

A television network newsmagazine recently broadcast a segment on the babies of 9/11, who were born after the

In July 2001 I wrote a guest opinion concerning our son Jeremy's enlistment into the United States Marine Corps. The piece was full of optimism and pride for our son as he chose to serve his country. Jeremy went to boot camp at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, and was a couple of months into his training on September 11. The recruit depot is adjacent to the San Diego airport.

"The first thing I noticed was that no planes were taking off. There was usually a flight leaving every couple of minutes, but that morning the planes just stopped," he told us later.

"Then, from all over the base, Marines poured out of buildings, weapons at ready, locked and loaded. We knew something was up. Later that morning our base commander addressed us all, told us what had happened, and said, 'This is what they pay us for.'"

From Jeremy's — and our — perspective, the world had changed, suddenly and decisively. Not long afterwards, I was talking with a retired naval officer and made the comment, "It's a different world we live in."

With all the patience a career military man could muster toward a civilian, he smiled and said, "No, actually the

GUEST OPINION:



Our true source of protection

By Tony Martin, Associate Editor

world has been like this for a long time. We always knew something like 9/11 was going to happen. We just didn't know when or where or how."

Perhaps, sometimes, ignorance is bliss; we may feel we're better off not knowing. We all lost a little of our innocence on September 11, and learned that even though our country had been spared the ravages of home-soil war since 1865, we'd now have to face up to personal threats, perhaps on civilians.

I've tried, as we approach the anniversary of the terrorist attacks, to reflect on the last year, especially in light of the job our son has been charged with performing. The Marines, the Army, the Air Force, the Navy, and the Coast Guard — plus thousands of reservists — have been thrust into the national consciousness because we know these brave men and

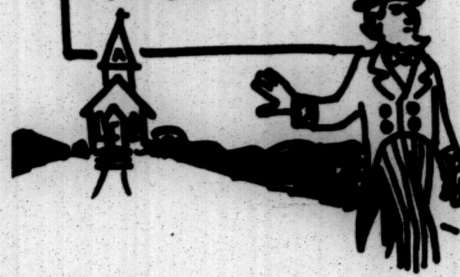
women have been entrusted with protecting America and her interests, both at home and abroad. Couple the work of our armed forces with the tireless vigilance of countless law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and other homeland guardians, and we should know that, to the extent that is humanly possible, we are protected and cared for.

What, then, about the protection we seek that is *not* humanly possible? I am struck today by the knowledge that we serve a God who not only knows when a single sparrow falls, but also knows when commercial jetliners crash into defenseless targets. The sovereign God of all creation neither slumbers nor sleeps, and his watchful eye sees all. A day will come when all of history will be rolled up like a rotten

SINCE SEPTEMBER 11...



BEFORE SEPTEMBER 11...



terrorist attacks and will never know their fathers. Although the newsmagazine's staff was successful in rounding up more than 60 such babies and their widowed mothers for the broadcast, it is believed that there are many more out there. There are apparently no statistics on how many pregnant women died in the attacks, carrying their unborn children into eternity with them. It's just too sad to contemplate.

As always, God has been at work through his people in the past year. It wasn't long after the attacks that Mississippi Baptists sprang into action. Mere hours after the attacks, leaders of the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force were on the road to New York City and Washington, D.C., to help organize and manage the early relief efforts by Southern Baptists.

What followed were hundreds of Mississippi Baptists volunteers, lined up to give thousands of hours of labor and prayer to the people of New York City and Washington, D.C. Incredible offerings and donations were soon on the

way. Many people who had never been exposed to a loving God heard an answer to the oft-asked question, "Why are you here?" The answer was, simply, "Because we are Christians."

Many times as survivors and loved ones have been interviewed, they have credited their faith in God for the ability to cope with their grief and look to the future with hope. It's been most interesting to see the national newspapers and television networks "discover" that people in the heartland still believe God can give them the strength to weather any storm in their lives.

The stories could go on and on. In the midst of such great tragedy, there are glimmers of hope. As Dean Register, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, and former two-term president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention recently said, "People are always saying they wish the country would get back to normal. I pray the country will get back to God."

Now, there's an outcome on which we could all agree. Let us each one, in our own way, be a part of making that happen.

papyrus scroll, and all the fierce little warrior leaders and the grand dynasties of our world will come to naught.

While we may suffer fitful sleep and watch the news with apprehension and dread, as believers we don't face the future as those who have no hope. It doesn't hurt to remember that we are sojourners here, that this world is not our home.

Of course I'm thankful for those men and women who protect us, and our pride in Jeremy knows no bounds. Knowing what he faces can be scary at times (although, we've been told, "Your son is a professional. Never underestimate his ability to do the job he's asked to do and to get himself and his companions home safely.") I also find comfort in the Marine Corps' motto: Semper Fidelis — always faithful.

My real comfort, though, comes in knowing that God is truly "always faithful." In the aftermath of 9/11, we can know that thousands of men and women are showing diligence in righting the wrongs that were committed.

Ultimately it is God alone who will protect us, who will preserve our immortal souls, and in whom we find final, definitive peace.

God reign over us.

Chaplain finds way to stay in NYC ministry

NEW YORK (BP) — Joe Williams, a chaplain for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), arrived in lower Manhattan on Sept. 14 to provide spiritual encouragement to the hundreds of rescue and recovery workers at Ground Zero.

One year later, he is still on the job and has an additional responsibility — pastoring a local Baptist congregation.

"My wife decided after eight months that I wasn't coming home so she quit her job and moved out here with me," said Williams, a 66-year-old resident of Oklahoma City.

Williams was originally given a six-month assignment for the Southern Baptist Convention's North American Mission Board (NAMB).

"Ground Zero didn't close down until [July] and there are a lot of things we couldn't do until they closed the site," Williams said. "We've been leading training workshops for mental health personnel, pastors, first responders, and chaplains. We wanted to show them how to lead crisis intervention workshops for people who were affected by Sept. 11 in the rescue community."

Today Williams is a resident

chaplain in New York as part of Enduring Hope, the unified plan for disbursing funds contributed through the NAMB,

lence for exceptional public service and its top civilian award in 1998. Williams has served as an FBI chaplain since 1991 when

each state sent one chaplain representative to the FBI Academy for orientation. His assignment was to serve the Oklahoma City division of the FBI.

On Sept. 12, Williams was deployed to New York City. "I was at home when the first planes went into the towers," Williams said. "I have four grown children and my youngest son called and told me to

quietly, and some of the men began to go outside," Williams told the audience, "and the mother of that little boy tried to apologize."

Williams said similar moments occurred throughout the city in the days and weeks following Sept. 11.

"That's why we are hosting these workshops," he said. "Everyone is able to tell their story. Most people just need to talk about their experiences." The workshops started in May with teams led by two facilitators, a mental health representative, a chaplain, and a peer support individual.

"We have trained six or seven teams that will stay in place once we leave," he said.

In addition to his duties as a chaplain, Williams recently agreed to serve as an intentional interim pastor of Madison Baptist Church in nearby New Jersey.



MULTIPLE SERVICE — FBI chaplain Joe Williams, being interviewed by a television reporter near Ground Zero in New York City a few days after the Sept. 11 attack, is now also the interim pastor of Madison Baptist Church in nearby New Jersey. (BP Photo)

New York Metropolitan Baptist Association, New York Baptist Convention, and other groups.

"These workshops prepare the leaders to relate to coworkers with peer support," he said, noting that the workshops have been conducted in Oklahoma for seven years.

Williams' own experience with tragedy dates back to the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. He spent 19 days at the site during rescue operations.

The retired chaplaincy specialist for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma was given the FBI's award of excel-

turn on the television."

Later that night, Williams received a message from the FBI to pack and be on standby. He was heading to New York.

"We worked Ground Zero for the first week," he said, "and then I was assigned to work the morgue at Bellevue Hospital. My primary responsibility was to FBI personnel, but we related to anybody who was inside that perimeter."

During a gathering of the Southern Baptist Chaplains and Counselors in Ministry Convocation in St. Louis, Williams recounted the story of a little boy who lost his father in the terrorist attacks.

The boy, whose father was a Port Authority police officer, began touching the cell phone of one of the officers at Ground Zero, Williams told the gathering.

"Would you call my daddy?" he asked the man.

"You could hear the people clearing their throat kind of

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9/11 video available

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A new video, *Radical Obedience*, shows Southern Baptists around the world responding to the Sept. 11 attacks, reminding that God's work is not yet finished. "Scripture has called us to be radically obedient, to go beyond language and cultural walls so that all peoples may know him," said International Mission Board (IMB) spokesman Mark Snowden. "Many Southern Baptists have already committed to become radically obedient by praying for the Muslim people of the world. Others have displayed their radical obedience by going, in peace, to make disciples in Jesus' name." *Radical Obedience* captures what God is doing through Christians working among Muslims around the world. Viewers will see what it is like to be expelled for sharing their faith, understand how Christians feel to have basic rights stripped away because of their faith, and weep with those leaving family and friends behind in order to share Jesus with Muslims. Viewers are shown Muslims separated from God's love and truth by walls of religious and civil law, family and community relationships, tradition and history, mistrust and fear — and God's love miraculously penetrating those barriers through Southern Baptists on mission. The video lets viewers walk the dusty streets of a North African city with a volunteer team that showed God's love to Muslims. Viewers will hear the tearful testimony of a pastor who had to explain to his young daughters why he might not return from his volunteer trip to Indonesia. The video also features testimonies from Dayna Curry and Heather Mercer, former missionaries with Shelter Now International of Germany, who were held prisoner by the Taliban in Afghanistan. in segments or in one session. The videotape costs \$5 and is only available through the IMB's Resource Center toll-free at (800) 866-3621, or on the Web at <http://resources.imb.org>

Looking back

10 years ago

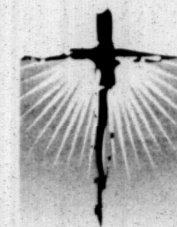
A Home Mission Board (HMB) study of Freemasonry is headed in a "compromising" direction and could become "watered-down, potentially destructive" unless corrective action is taken, Texas physician Larry Holly warns HMB President Larry Lewis.

20 years ago

Southern Baptist Convention President James T. Draper rejects a proposal to "depoliticize" the convention presidency, declining to support a proposal that would divest the president of appointments to the committee on committees and the resolutions committee.

50 years ago

Three associations — George, Warren, and New Choctaw — are the first of the 74 associations in the state to become 100 percent this year in Cooperative Program giving. Each church in each association made contributions to the Cooperative Program.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE

Church sets special 9/11 response

HATTIESBURG, Miss. (Special) — When news of the 9/11 attacks began to trickle into the living rooms of the members of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, they knew a special churchwide response was needed. Michael Chance, son of church member Robert Chance, serves as director of ministries at the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association — one of the Baptist agencies in a position to swiftly respond to the aftermath of the attacks.

"Because of Michael, we felt we had a special interest," said Temple Church Pastor Dean Register. On the Sunday immediately after the attacks, the church conducted a spontaneous offering for the association that turned into one of the church's largest offerings ever. "We wanted them to use it for a Christian witness in the community," Register said.

In addition, the church sent a 28-member team in the spring of 2002 to work with Michael Chance in New York City. Several people were led to Christ during that mission trip, according to Register, including two Chinese attorneys.

The pastor said it's all in the spirit of the church. "Temple has had a heart for missions for years — a heart to see people come to know Christ. Whenever tragedy strikes, we're quick to respond," he said.

Wife learning to trust God after 9/11 loss

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

On the morning of September 11, a worried friend called Cheryl McGuinness to ask if she was watching television. When McGuinness turned on the television in her home outside New York City, she saw the horrific replays of two jetliners crashing into the World Trade Towers in Manhattan.

Her mind immediately flashed to her husband Tom, an American Airlines pilot scheduled to fly that morning to the West Coast. They had celebrated his birthday the evening before. She had kissed him goodbye a little earlier that morning as he left for the airport.

Her two children called from school to ask if Dad was safe. She called her husband's cell phone and got no answer. She called the special American Airlines emergency crew tracking number, but they had no immediate information on Tom's Flight 11 in those frantic first few minutes after the crashes.

Her home began to fill with friends and family. When she saw the chief pilot for American Airlines on her doorstep, she knew.

"I was hysterical. I said, 'Please God, don't call him home,'" she recalled, but she knew her high school sweetheart was gone.

McGuinness shared her personal journey since her husband was killed in the terrorist attacks, during the August 18 morning worship services of First Church, Jackson.

"Tom asked me to his prom when I was 16 years old," McGuinness said. "He was my sweetheart, my knight in shining armor. He lifted me to his level."

A Top Gun fighter pilot during his days in the U.S. military, Tom was the family leader, McGuinness recalled, especially when it came to their Christian faith.

"I am blessed that my children saw a loving man in Tom. God did a great work in Tom," she pointed out.

"I was a normal woman, living a happy life," she said. Then the telephone rang on the morning of September 11.

"The children knew from the look on my face that I had bad news for them," she said. "I was about to break their hearts. I told them, 'Jesus has called Daddy home.' I can't imagine anything more painful. I was forced into the role of leader of the family; I didn't have my mate to lean on."

McGuinness described feeling "crushed, inadequate, empty, (and) broken," since the loss of her husband. "Confused" is the



TESTIMONY SHARED — Cheryl McGuinness (second from right), prepares to speak August 18 at First Church, Jackson, about her great loss in the terrorist attacks of September 11 and God's trustworthy support since then. Joining McGuinness for the worship service were (from left) interim pastor Charles Carter; her daughter Jennifer; and evangelism pastor Walter Jackson. (BR photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

single best description of my intellectual response. I've asked, 'Why me, and what about my precious children?' I am weak, insecure, vulnerable, and exposed. I am very alone," she said.

However, all is not lost for her and her family, McGuinness said. "I am now so dependent on God. God is bringing me out of the depths of despair. The key to my strength has been prayer," she said.

Citing Ps. 34:17, McGuinness said she has grown to trust God with every detail of her life. "I thank God and praise him with all my heart for talking care of my family. I'm learning new ways to trust him," she said.

McGuinness recounted a recent conversation with her daughter in which Jennifer said, "I'm so glad you're not angry." She

told Jennifer, "Anger will hold us captive and separate us from God."

"I live in obedience to my Lord, even when it doesn't feel good. God loves me more than I can comprehend. My job is not to figure out how life's pieces fit together. (God) wants us to depend on him for everything we do," McGuinness pointed out.

"If God is speaking to you, listen. Embrace the opportunities and roles you have been given. When we set our anchor in Christ, we cannot be swept away."

"God truly is trustworthy. His Word is reliable. His power and love are inexhaustible. Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.' In the past 11 months, I have found out exactly how he does it," she said.

Church plans long term ministry at Ground Zero

NEW YORK (BP) — Gregg Farah is realistic about the challenges of starting a church in lower Manhattan despite the kinder, gentler attitudes widely rumored to have taken root since Sept. 11.

He is also optimistic about the opportunities for introducing many in the community to a saving faith in Jesus Christ — and the responsibility of Southern Baptists to continue to minister beyond the immediate crisis.

Farah is a North American Mission Board (NAMB) missionary serving as pastor of Mosaic Manhattan, a congregation being started in the Battery Park neighborhood adjacent to Ground Zero — the 16-acre former site of the World Trade Center.

"There are times when I feel people are still open and there are times when I feel that cracked window that we saw after Sept. 11 has slammed shut

and people are more hardhearted than ever, but I'd say it's a minority," Farah said.

The congregation is just one small part of a long-term disaster relief plan that has come to be known as "Enduring Hope," an effort to spend more than \$4 million in contributions that flooded Southern Baptist entities in the months after the attack in an expression of love and concern.

With traditional Southern Baptist disaster relief efforts relying more on volunteers than dollars, leaders — in consultation with key donors — determined that a long-term, holistic approach would be most effective.

The bulk of the money under the plan went toward victim benevolence and counseling, including direct payments to affected families, immediate disaster relief and ministry projects, and chaplaincy efforts.

About 41% went to long-term initiatives, including purchase of a building in Brooklyn to house future volunteer ministry teams in the city and partial funding for the Mosaic Manhattan congregation.

Other key sponsors of the church include Hyde Park Church in Austin, Texas, and Gateway Church in Irmo, S.C.

Through the Enduring Hope benevolence effort, about \$1.9 million has been given to more than 1,000 families impacted by the disaster. Most are service-industry and hospitality workers who lost their jobs, a category many officials are now admitting has fallen through the cracks of other relief efforts. Through follow-up efforts, many have also become involved in local churches and renewed or begun relationships with Christ.

Initially developed by the Metropolitan New York Baptist

Association, the Baptist Convention of New York, and NAMB, elements of Enduring Hope also have been funded by other state conventions that received similar donations.

Mosaic Manhattan has been in development since Farah, who grew up in Manhattan's Upper West Side, moved with his family to an apartment in the area in late April.

Since then, several mission groups have conducted servant evangelism efforts, and a core group meeting weekly for Bible study has grown to about 20. Because of faster-than-expected growth, they currently are planning for a public launch by the end of the year.

"Fortunately, God is in this place and we're expecting great things," he said. "Without question there are huge obstacles and challenges, but I can't imagine being anywhere else."

Daughter's question hits dad 'in the gut'

CULLMAN, Ala. (BP) — With a master's degree nearly in hand and job possibilities on the horizon, Jimmy Mauldin thought everything was falling together for his family.

The Sept. 11 attacks and a conversation with his five-year-old daughter changed his perspective.

In June of next year, Mauldin, his wife Jennifer, and their four children will return to Ghana, West Africa, where they served as missionaries from 1996 to 2000. While on assignment, Mauldin was a hospital administrator at a Baptist medical center that treated 60,000 outpatients and 10,000 inpatients every year.

Mauldin described his missionary experience as rewarding but difficult. When the Mauldins returned from the field to their hometown in Cullman, Ala., they were ready for a break. "I was back home and enjoyed every minute of it," he said. "It was fun to return back to 'normal' life."

"I began to question whether or not I really wanted to return to the field. I began to rationalize that God needed workers right here also. I didn't need to go to some place far away."

Mauldin felt his desire to stay in the United States was confirmed while watching live coverage of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on TV.

"If there was any question left, I definitely was not taking my family overseas again," he said. "I surely did not want to get on a plane."

some "bad men," Katie asked: "Daddy, why didn't someone tell them about Jesus?"

That question, Mauldin said, hit him "right in the gut." Though he tried to put the conversation out of his mind, Mauldin, who was just about to complete a master's degree in business administration, struggled with whether to explore new career possibilities.

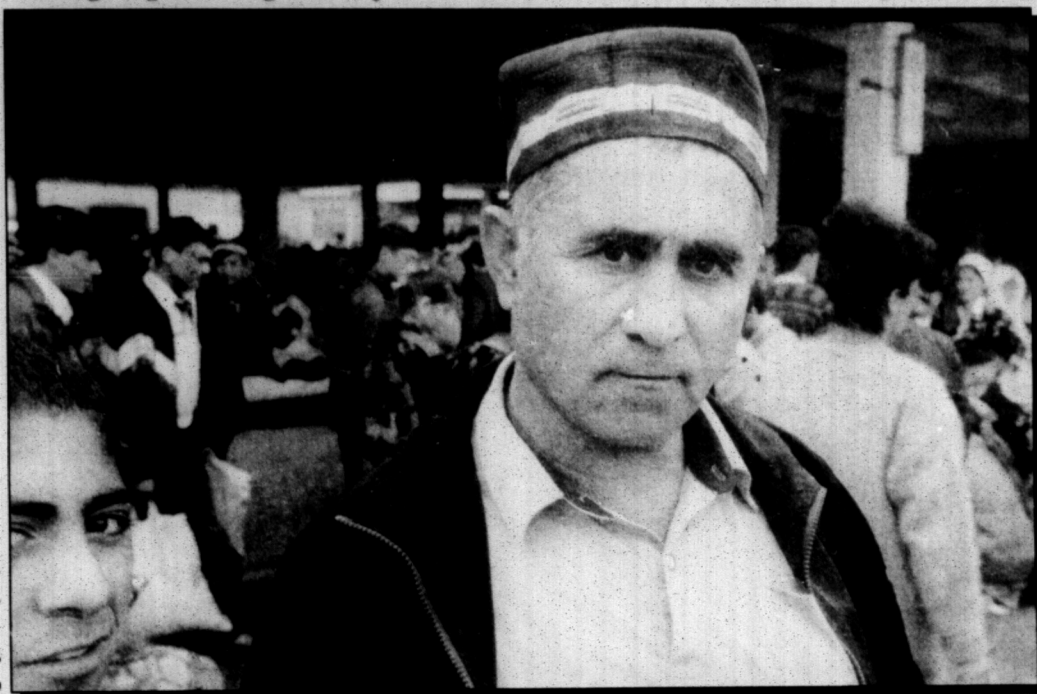
"I had several job opportunities presented to me," he said. "However, I couldn't accept any of them. It just wasn't right. I did not have the peace to accept any of those positions."

"God reminded me that there are 1.7 billion people in the world who have never heard about the love of Jesus Christ. It is not like Alabama, where there is a church on every corner and most people have at least heard about God and have ample opportunities to respond to the gospel."

After prayer, Mauldin and his wife decided it was time to return with their family to Africa and continue the work they had started.

"I can say with all conviction that God has called me to use my business and leadership skills to help further the cause of Christ around the world," he said.

"Yes, God can bless me here in Alabama, but just think about the blessings I will miss out on if I do not follow God's direction to Ghana."



TO SAVE THE WORLD — A missionary dad's renewed commitment to reach the 1.7 billion people in the world who have yet to hear about the love of Jesus Christ, like this man in an unidentified Muslim country, was sparked by his daughter who asked him why no one told the Sept. 11 hijackers about Jesus. (BP photo)

"Jennifer and I have four small children. How could I put them in danger? My mind was settled. God does need strong business laymen to work for him in Alabama."

Mauldin's five-year-old daughter Katie challenged his reservations the next day as he drove her to kindergarten.

During the drive, she asked her father why all the flags were at half-staff. When he said it was because of the actions of



9/11 bulletin cover now at LifeWay

NASHVILLE (BP) — Broadman & Holman, the publishing division of LifeWay Christian Resources, is producing a special 9/11 memorial bulletin cover designed by artist Ron DiCianni. The artwork, "No Greater Love," is of firefighters, police officers, and medical personnel, and it honors their service to America.

The covers are available at LifeWay Christian Stores. In Mississippi, those stores are located at 3800 N. Gloster in Tupelo (662) 844-2201; 6366 Ridgewood Court Drive in Jackson (601) 977-9676; and 15128 Crossroads Parkway in Gulfport (228) 539-4263.

A number of other 9/11 resources, including downloadable sermon and worship helps and community outreach options, are available through a special website: www.lifeway.com/unitedsunday

"We just see it bubbling up," Jim Johnston, managing director of LifeWay's publishing services and multimedia area, said of the interest churches are showing in planning special 9/11 services. "It's a huge need of churches."

"Churches want to do something special for not only their own members, but for people who are outside and may be coming into the church seeking answers."

"We want to be a resource to help them realize the big dream of having really special, moving services on both September 8 and 11."

THE JOY OF WORK

Labor Day is an interesting holiday. It is a day on which most labor ceases in order to honor laborers for their work. There are two important facets of work that I think are generally overlooked.

• **Work is a God-given blessing.** Many people think that work came as a result of sin. The biblical truth is that the pain, agony, struggle, and sweat of the brow that became a part of work was the result of sin. Work itself was already a natural part of God's environment before sin. After the creation of the garden and prior to sin, God placed Adam in the garden and instructed him to keep it and take care of it. Both then and now the awkwardness, the troubles, the struggles, and strife of work come as an outgrowth of our own selfish sinfulness.

• **The Lord can transform your work into purposeful living.** It doesn't matter if you are a computer whiz or in show biz, a fisherman or a physician, a store clerk or a soda jerk, a truck driver or a bee-hiver, a maintenance man or direct a band, a teacher or a preacher, work as a nurse or drive a hearse, till the ground or perform as a clown, God can use you and bless you in the workforce.

Apparently many people do not understand their use-



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

fulness, not only in the labor pool, but also in the Kingdom of God. In August the result of a study was released saying that 51% of the people surveyed did not like their jobs. A local TV station in Jackson did a "log on/send in your answer" kind of information poll-taking and their results were almost identical to the national study. Seeing in black and white the results of the questionnaire was helpful toward understanding why life seems to be as it is in the work and service force. Regardless of what direction you turn, it's often hard to find people who are happy with their job and in their job. In fact, according to the survey, there is a 50/50 chance whether you are going to have somebody growling at you or grinning at you when you check out at the grocery store.

Now, if that statistic holds true across the board, let's just think what that may mean — that you have a 50/50 chance of

being given a shot by a nurse who is not happy with her job and may not be happy to see you, or that the person preparing your fast food for you to grab and go at lunch time may not be happy at what they are doing and it will probably be reflected in the service. Oh my soul, what if you go to a dentist who isn't happy, or have your car repaired by somebody who is not particularly pleased with their job, or subject your child to daily ill-spiritedness from a teacher who feels they have been locked in a prison rather than a classroom?

I'm sure that every age and every dimension of society has had people who were not particularly pleased with their job, but it sure seems to be of epidemic proportions in today's world. The real question that comes to my heart and mind, which I do not believe is reflected in the study, has to do with those of us who work in the church. I wonder how many people serving the Lord and

serving in positions in their local congregations or in larger Kingdom settings like what they are doing?

How many pastors would rather be doing something else? How many staff people would prefer to do what they are doing in some other setting or some other location? How many Sunday School teachers are just grinding it out, hoping they can come up with a good excuse for the nominating committee as to why they shouldn't teach next year? I wonder how many people who love to sing don't particularly appreciate being asked to sing on the particular Sunday or at the particular service that they have been requested?

While it seems fairly easy to pick up on those bad vibrations from people who aren't particularly pleased with their job in the secular workplace, do you suppose people can detect when we in the church do not enjoy doing our jobs? I have a sneaky suspicion that most of us do not hide it very well. Maybe if we realized, I mean *really* understood, the importance of what we are doing as we serve the Lord, our attitudes might be changed. Have you noticed the joy a happy worker brings to the job? Ask the Lord to let that be you and then become the answer to your prayer!

STAFF CHANGES

A retirement reception was held on June 30 for **William P. Smith, III**, missions director for Lee Association. Pictured (from left) are Paul Perkins, father of Mary Ellis Smith; Mary Ellis Smith; and William Smith.

Clinton Miller, pastor of Calvary Church, Pascagoula, resigned Sunday, Aug. 5. Miller has accepted a call as pastor of First Church, Lewisville, Ark., effective Sept. 15. His last Sunday at Calvary Baptist Church will be Sept. 8.



Robertson

Lee Association has elected **Dan Wayne Robertson** as the new Associational Missions Director effective Aug. 15. A native of Union County, Robertson is mission strategy coordinator for the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, and Canadian Baptist in Toronto, Canada. He previously served as pastor of First Church, Natchez, and West Heights Church, Pontotoc. His former education took place at Mississippi State University, New Orleans Seminary, and Institute De Tengua Espanol, Costa Rica.

East Howard Church, Biloxi, has called **Carl McNatt** as pastor effective Sept. 1. McNatt served at Bexley Church in Bexley near Lucedale. He is currently doing graduate studies at New Orleans Seminary.

Ramah Church, McCall Creek, has called **Gordon Coker** as full time pastor. He has been serving the church as interim pastor.



Paul Perkins and the Smiths'

First Church, Lyman, recently ordained Bobby Brock and Donald Evans as deacons. Pictured (from left) are Garland Boyd, pastor; Billy Newman, chairman of deacons; Brock; and Evans.

Providence Church, Carrollton, recently presented

Don Alderson with a certificate of appreciation for outstanding Christian leadership. Alderson serves Greenwood public schools as ROTC instructor.



Don Alderson

Members at **Providence Church, Carrollton**, who teach were presented with a certificate of appreciation in August. Pictured (from left) are



Alford, Bobby & Jessie Robertson, Madison, and Lundy

Amanda Burchfield; Donnie Wiltshire; Dana Eldridge; Roy Welch; Marie Hopkins; Kathy Wenger; Sharron Williamson; and Bennie Watson. Not pictured was Don Alderson.

Mt. Nelson Church, Neshoba Association, ordained Bobby Robertson as deacon on Aug. 25. Pictured (from left) are Mack Alford, pastor; Bobby and Jessie Robertson; Tom Madison, chairman of deacons; and Lowry Lundy, deacon.

Clothed in Christ, a women's conference at Carrollton Church, Carrollton, will be held Saturday, Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Featured speaker will be Rita Sweatt. Music will be by the Women of Praise of North Carrollton Church. For additional information and to register, call Charlene Senn at (662) 237-6717.

Monticello Church, Monticello, will be celebrating its 125th anniversary on Oct. 20. The program will begin at 10 a.m., followed by a catered luncheon. Special activities for children will be provided. Jon

Daniels is pastor. For additional information, call (601) 587-2114.

Providence Church, Carrollton, honored **Benny Watson** for 34 years of service as pastor. George Smith, mission director



The Watson's and Rich



Honored teachers of Providence Church, Carrollton

for Carroll and Montgomery Counties, was the guest speaker. are Ruth Watson, Bennie Watson, and Rich.

Coleman Rich, deacon, presented Watson with a certificate of appreciation from the church. A fellowship followed the morning service. Pictured (from left)



Boyd, Newman, Brock and Evans

January Bible Study Preview Clinics 2002

"Helping Your Church Stay on Course: Studies in I Corinthians"

Conference Leader:
Dr. Gene Henderson
Pastor, FBC, Brandon

Locations:

September 23 - Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain
September 24 - Delta State BSU, Cleveland
September 25 - Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson
September 26 - William Carey College, Hattiesburg

Conference Times (all locations):

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. - Registration/Refreshments
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Conference - lunch is provided

Sponsored by: Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
Sunday School Department, PO Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205
(601) 986-3800 or (800) 748-1651

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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

September 5, 2002

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

Pray this day for...

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"When praying, don't give God instructions, just report for duty."

Heather Sibley

The Laccadivian Muslims live on the Lakshadweep Islands off the southwestern coast of India. They migrated from the Kerala coast around the seventh century. They came as Hindus and later converted to Islam. Ask the Lord to call people who are willing to go to India and share Christ among the Laccadivian Muslims.

For: (1) Bible Drill Clinics, FBC, McComb, 7-9 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Bible Drill Clinics, Fast Heights BC, Tupelo, 7-9 p.m. (D&FM); (3) Continue to pray for government leaders in Afghanistan to be guided by God to establish lasting peace and to open the door for God's love to be known there.

For: (1) Bible Drill Clinics, Longview Heights BC, Olive Branch, 7-9 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Bible Drill Clinics, FBC, Pascagoula, 7-9 p.m. (D&FM); (3) Professional Certification & SkillShops for Ministry Assistants, Garaywa, Clinton, 8 a.m., 10th - 4 p.m., 12th (P/LD).

In recent weeks several believers have made the decision to move into Libya to live and work. Please lift up these workers and their families, asking that they will encounter many open doors for work possibilities, relationships among Libyan Arabs, and opportunities to share their faith.

For: (1) Bible Drill Clinics, FBC, Vicksburg, Midway BC, Meridian, 7-9 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Unemployment in China is soaring. Urban joblessness now averages around 8 to 9 percent. In industrial belts, it is estimated to be as high as 20 percent. Pray that Christians in China will be sensitive to those who are without jobs and share the love of Christ in word and action.

Have you ever gone without water for 17 days in one month? ISC workers Josh and Virginia Giddens and their 2-year old daughter in Mwanza, Tanzania, have. Recently, the IMB approved a clean water project that will provide pure water for 450 high school students and others in that community. Pray that meeting a physical need will open doors to preach Christ, the Living Water, among many people.

Praise the Lord for visa and work permit renewals! Ask God for the Hilltribes Team to continue to have favor in the eyes of government officials in Nan Province, Thailand. Pray for safe travel of discipleship teams on slippery muddy mountain roads and for safety from mosquito-borne diseases during the rainy seasons.

Dean Fulks is a collegiate strategist in Pataskala, Ohio. Pray for the 600,000 students on 181 campuses, for the existing ministries to be healthy and strong, and that they will reach unchurched students and mentor them. Pray that they can expand into unreached campuses.

For: (1) Anti-Gambling Day (CAC Emphasis); (2) Pray that God would call out Christians from other regions and cities of Cote d'Ivoire to live and share the gospel among the Beng people.

For: (1) South Mississippi Evangelism Conference (FBC, Gulfport, 7-9 p.m. (Evan); (2) Pray today for Prime Minister Saad al-Abdallah al-Salim Al Sabah of Kuwait (Middle East, between Iraq and Saudi Arabia).

For: (1) Faith Training, FBC, Gulfport, noon, 17th - 9 p.m., 19th (SS); (2) Encourage your church to join other churches across the country in a journey of prayer on the third Tuesday night of September for students and the schools in your community. Pray for the safety, and the spiritual growth of the students and school staff.

For: (1) See You At the Pole, school campuses, 7:15 a.m. - 8 a.m. (Evan). This is a time for students to pray for their school, teachers, friends, families, government and nation. Many groups sing choruses, read Scripture, and give testimonies while holding hands around the flagpole, and then form groups of three to five students for prayer.

Pray that President Alvaro Uribe of Colombia would endeavor to restore the sanctity of life, families, and morality in Colombia. Pray that he will be faithful, loving, and honest with his spouse and children. Pray that Christian families in Bogota will be faithful to live in their families as God has ordained.

RAID DAY



Attention: All Lads, Crusaders, & Challengers

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12



**Mississippi College
Grades 1-12**

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$4 per person

**Bring your own sack lunch
and drink.**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
OCTOBER 4**

For more info call the Men's Ministry Department
1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800

Who?

All boys grades 1-12
and their leaders



What?

Missionary Speaker
Music, Testimonies
Meet the Football Players
and Cheerleaders.
Football Game + MORE FUN!!!

When?

Saturday, October 12, 2002
10 a.m. - conclusion of ball game
(about 5 p.m.)

Where

Mississippi College
Coliseum, Clinton

Cost?

\$4 Per Person (includes ball
game and limited
supplemental insurance)



T.W. Hunt

**2003 BAPTIST DOCTRINE
STUDY PREVIEWS**

Doctrine of Prayer

with

T.W. Hunt

Make your plans now!

Attend a preview of the
2003 Baptist Doctrine Study
at one of the following locations:

- FBC, McComb, January 20, 2003
- FBC, Richland, January 21, 2003
- FBC, Oxford, January 23, 2003

Preregistration is requested. All previews are from
9 a.m.-noon. The cost is \$10, which includes brunch
and a copy of the study course book.

Contact the Discipleship & Family Ministry Department for more
info: 1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800

The following is a listing of gifts made to the Lord's work which were processed through the Business Office of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board from January 1, 2002, through June 30, 2002. An "*" denotes a gift from the association. If you have any questions about the amounts reported for your church, please contact the Business Office at 968-3800 or 1-800-748-1651. Thank you for your support of missions!

	COOP. PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
ADAMS			
CALVARY	1,530.00	2,945.00	4,475.00
CUFF TEMPLE	9,049.22	5,397.57	14,446.79
CRANFIELD	817.55	1,575.79	2,393.34
FBC NATCHEZ	51,430.38	75,613.57	127,043.95
HIGHLAND	11,029.69	8,216.08	19,245.77
IMMANUEL	7,003.76	5,444.05	12,447.81
MORGANTOWN	12,224.28	13,934.47	26,158.75
NEW HOPE	344.52	2,397.70	2,742.22
PARKWAY	32,347.14	23,512.20	55,859.34
SPRINGFIELD	1,892.00	2,581.00	4,473.00
STANTON	8,506.06	6,841.13	15,347.19
WASHINGTON	7,286.35	5,676.74	12,963.09
TOTAL	143,464.91	152,167.20	295,632.11
ALCORN			
ANTIOCH	1,678.22	4,762.20	6,440.42
BETHLEHEM	1,153.67	5,745.37	6,899.04
BRUSH CREEK	415.22	377.50	792.72
CALVARY	3,155.49	6,346.05	9,501.54
COUNTY LINE	600.00	2,955.00	3,555.00
DANVILLE	254.25	254.25	508.50
EAST CORINTH	4,947.35	3,565.16	8,512.51
FBC BIGGERSVILLE	1,357.53	1,703.75	3,061.28
FBC CORINTH	77,397.21	36,039.84	113,437.05
GLENDALE	4,459.31	10,448.41	14,907.72
HINKLE	2,590.41	3,464.00	6,054.41
HOLLY	2,503.88	7,493.14	9,997.02
JACINTO	691.04	621.76	1,312.80
KEMPS CHAPEL	837.93	1,022.93	1,860.86
KENDRICK	1,079.01	1,079.00	2,158.01
KNOXVIEW FIRST	3,613.31	2,326.16	5,939.47
KENTRICK HILL	0.00	941.74	941.74
LOVE OAK	3,520.11	774.85	4,294.96
LOVEJOY	640.21	1,567.02	2,207.23
NORTH CORINTH	0.00	700.00	700.00
OAKLAND	35,040.05	35,144.87	70,184.92
RIDGECREST	4,772.20	11,096.62	15,868.82
SHILOH	6,061.10	6,925.45	12,986.55
SOUTH CORINTH	600.00	1,827.33	2,427.33
TATE	40,205.13	31,684.86	71,889.99
TISHOMINGO CHPL	4,154.78	3,846.46	8,001.24
TULUMBLIA	1,092.49	1,838.81	2,931.30
UNITY	1,901.36	2,115.88	4,017.24
WEST CORINTH	445.02	1,337.78	1,782.80
WHEELER GROVE	8,313.46	27,824.51	36,137.97
TOTAL	245,820.15	233,430.23	479,250.38
ATLANTA			
*ASSOCIATION	915.00	552.00	1,467.00
BEAR CREEK	1,209.97	733.61	1,943.58
BEEBA	48.00	204.00	252.00
BOWLIN	1,985.00	400.00	2,385.00
CARSON RIDGE	1,975.00	2,519.00	4,494.00
COUNTY LINE	549.65	2,438.99	3,000.00
DOBY SPRINGS	750.00	1,500.00	2,250.00
EFTENZER	6,037.00	6,318.09	12,355.09
FBC KOSCIUSKO	84,836.36	71,881.92	156,718.28
HURRICANE	303.60	499.88	803.48
ICADALEM	1,374.37	3,786.25	5,160.62
MCADAM	3,786.25	6,672.33	10,458.58
MCCOOL	5,426.76	5,469.23	10,895.99
NEW SALEM	948.00	1,262.87	2,210.87
NORTH UNION	173.45	173.45	346.90
PARKWAY	15,296.61	13,411.96	28,708.57
PEELER MEMORIAL	205.00	370.00	575.00
PILGRIMS REST	1,154.99	3,018.27	4,173.26
PLEASANT RIDGE	140.00	0.00	140.00
PROVIDENCE	3,000.00	7,722.59	10,722.59
SAHIS	1,241.39	1,927.59	3,168.98
SAND HILL	636.00	480.00	1,116.00
SPRINGDALE	2,368.60	1,986.15	4,354.75
UNITY	1,480.00	1,939.00	3,419.00
WILLIAMSVILLE	18,034.51	24,834.51	42,869.02
WYCKANOOKANY	901.68	945.91	1,847.59
ZAMA	830.94	1,992.49	2,823.43
TOTAL	153,821.00	166,256.68	320,077.68
BENTON-TIPPAH			
*ASSOCIATION	0.00	3,535.00	3,535.00
ACADEMY	1,736.02	3,151.46	4,887.48
ASHLAND	9,564.16	13,067.71	22,631.87
BLUFF SPRINGS	1,595.00	2,644.00	4,239.00
CALVARY	376.00	376.00	752.00
CANAAN	350.00	0.00	350.00
COUNTY LINE	371.31	2,294.54	3,065.85
COMMUNITY	1,397.00	2,240.00	3,637.00
CONCORD	1,000.00	1,998.00	2,998.00
DRY CREEK	350.04	900.08	1,250.12
DUNAS	18,546.38	12,702.60	31,248.98
FAITH BENTON	1,997.61	1,997.61	3,995.22
FAITH BENTON	9,251.26	10,323.08	19,574.34
FBC HICKORY FLAT	4,498.66	6,121.50	10,620.16
FBC RIPLEY	48,000.00	26,471.90	74,471.90
FELLOWSHIP	5,481.91	8,254.99	13,736.90
HAMILTON	1,663.09	65.00	1,728.09
HARMONY	6,845.65	12,645.65	19,491.30
LEBANON	714.17	2,860.68	3,574.85
LOWREY MEMORIAL	4,933.34	7,887.04	12,820.38
MACDONALD-DTOWN	521.00	376.00	897.00
MT HEBRON	975.00	0.00	975.00
MT MORIAN	1,128.00	3,826.86	4,954.86
MT OLIVE	1,248.00	2,488.12	3,736.12
NEW HOPE	234.86	848.00	1,082.86
NORTH RIPLEY	430.65	861.32	1,291.97
OAKLAND	1,909.36	2,913.78	4,823.14
PEOPLES	3,594.86	5,117.28	8,712.14
PINE GROVE DUMAS	696.27	1,891.99	2,588.26
PINE GROVE HICKY FLAT	4,092.00	1,910.42	6,002.42
PLEASANT HILL T'VILL	699.78	0.00	699.78
PLEASANT HILL A'LAND	0.00	1,615.00	1,615.00
PROVIDENCE	3,097.09	2,987.12	6,084.21
SHADY GROVE	1,483.33	2,923.32	4,406.65
SPRINGDALE	18,014.74	12,476.00	30,490.74
TIPPAH	1,122.15	1,747.28	2,869.43
TURNERS CHAPEL	0.00	528.00	528.00
UNITY	200.00	50.00	250.00
WALNUT	2,567.23	6,321.38	8,888.61
WEST RIPLEY	18,464.88	13,849.74	32,314.62
WHITETOWN	1,919.02	963.11	2,882.13
TOTAL	185,217.74	180,391.41	365,609.15
CALHOUN			
*ASSOCIATION	0.00	1,205.25	1,205.25
ANTIOCH	1,026.00	1,532.45	2,558.45
BANNER	3,846.42	5,138.86	8,985.28
BENTLEY	0.00	505.00	505.00
BETHANY	5,400.00	16,673.96	22,073.96
BIG CREEK	14,509.53	9,464.77	23,974.30
BRADFORD CHAPEL	2,951.69	5,060.86	8,012.55
CALVARY	1,130.40	1,476.80	2,607.20
COLLEGE HILL	1,473.04	1,043.47	2,516.51
CONCORD	1,885.30	944.65	2,829.95
DERMA	9,884.72	6,338.52	16,223.24
DRIVERS FLAT	130.00	737.00	867.00
DUNCAN HILL	895.00	0.00	895.00
ELIARD	745.61	1,778.34	2,523.95
FBC BRUCE	27,252.00	15,444.73	42,696.73
FBC CALHOUN CITY	28,515.00	30,972.40	59,487.40
FBC PITTSBORO	4,579.00	4,274.00	8,853.00
FBC VARDAMAN	15,521.36	8,893.66	24,415.02
LANTIRP	1,130.40	2,106.75	3,237.15
MADONIA	1,919.02	1,041.69	2,960.71
MIDWAY	887.53	1,042.91	1,930.44
MT COMFORT	2,355.36	6,907.59	9,262.95
MT MORIAN	6,503.86	6,907.59	13,411.45
MT TABOR	3,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00
NEW HOPE	6,249.91	6,249.91	12,499.82
NEW LIBERTY	1,806.85	1,806.85	3,613.70
NEW PROVIDENCE	1,029.58	4,611.19	5,640.77
OAK GROVE	112.00	0.00	112.00
OLDTOWN	3,677.28	4,045.32	7,722.60
PARKER	1,168.70	778.47	1,947.17
PILGRIMS REST	1,811.32	1,362.85	3,174.17
PLEASANT GROVE	2,352.45	6,508.88	8,861.33
PLEASANT RIDGE	5,105.05	4,822.41	9,927.46
PLEASANT RIDGE	1,908.96	3,725.48	5,634.44
POPULAR SPRINGS	400.31	340.18	740.49

	COOP. PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
ROCKY BRANCH	582.20	1,155.14	1,737.34
ROCKY MOUNT	53.00	500.00	553.00
ROCKY MOUNT	6,364.10	4,904.19	11,268.29
SAREPTA	347.20	1,203.88	1,551.08
SECOND CALHOUN	660.00	3,000.00	3,660.00
SHILOH	625.66	6,454.23	7,079.89
SPRING HILL	1,332.13	1,959.64	3,291.77
WEEKS CREEK	62.00	55.00	117.00
WESTSIDE	1,684.41	985.08	2,669.49
TOTAL	161,803.19	164,826.22	326,629.41
CARROLL			
*ASSOCIATION	0.00	100.00	100.00
BLACK HAWK	508.37	508.37	1,016.74
CALVARY	1,077.49	3,265.19	4,342.68
CARROLLTON	28,026.31	16,799.56	44,825.87
CENTERVILLE	284.56	468.00	752.56
COILA	150.00	150.00	300.00
HARMONY	600.00	900.00	1,500.00
HICKORY GROVE	371.57	371.57	743.14
HILLVIEW	417.15	409.04	826.19
LIBERTY	3,496.72	6,703.18	10,199.90
MALMAISON	2,123.00	5,521.00	7,644.00
MCCARTNEY	793.00	561.50	1,354.50
MT OLIVE	7,788.72	7,557.56	15,346.28
MT PISCATAWAY	4,842.23	5,411.13	10,253.36
NEW BETHEL	1,209.48	3,405.12	4,614.60
NORTH CARROLLTON	8,208.95	12,303.33	20,512.28
PROVIDENCE	3,182.22	4,141.81	7,324.03
SHILOH	906.00	607.00	1,513.00
VAIDEN	13,009.84	18,897.95	31,907.79
VALLEY HILL	1,159.00	2,769.00	3,928.00
TOTAL	78,149.61	90,850.71	169,000.32
CHICKASAW			
AMITY	1,285.90	1,377.53	2,663.43
ARBOR GROVE	1,995.00	2,652.50	4,647.50
BETHEL	3,826.18	1,820.25	5,646.43
CARLTON	930.42	0.00	930.42
FBC HOUKA	9,268.10	4,657.00	13,925.10
FBC HOUKA	38,132.06	0.00	38,132.06
FBC OKOLONA	19,611.00	9,105.50	28,716.50
FBC WOODLAND	1,667.70	653.16	2,320.86
FELLOWSHIP	0.00	161.00	161.00
MCADAM	377.34	606.01	983.35
MT OLIVE	620.64	1,417.50	2,038.14
NEW PROSPECT	255.00	135.00	390.00
PARKWAY	6,823.69	8,343.36	15,167.05
PLEASANT GROVE	1,228.88	3,424.20	4,653.08
PLEASANT RIDGE	900.00	1,150.00	2,050.00
SCHOONER VALLEY	0.00	100.00	100.00
SHILOH	1,813.75	5,132.82	6,946.57
VAN VLEET	944.00	150.00	1,094.00
TOTAL	89,679.66	39,985.83	129,665.49
CHOCTAW			
ACKERMAN	10,325.00	10,971.53	21,296.53
BETHLEHEM	300.00	200.00	500.00
BLUFF SPRINGS	150.00	600.00	750.00
BLUFF SPRINGS	3,558.00	4,102.00	7,660.00
CHESTER	1,613.38	5,677.70	7,291.08
CROSSROADS	1,420.12	2,188.49	3,608.61
CROSSROADS	975.69	713.79	1,689.48
FELLOWSHIP	2,569.42	3,255.61	5,825.03
FENTRESS	510.00	510.00	1,020.00
FRENCH CAMP	3,260.09	4,691.66	7,951.75
MT MORIAN	1,755.15	1,650.00	3,405.15
MT PISCATAWAY	1,969.99	1,969.99	3,939.98
NEW HAVEN	1,461.08	4,501.12	5,962.20
NEW COVENANT	1,600.82	1,073.06	2,673.88
NEW HOPE COLUMBUS	2,500.00	2,500.00	5,000.00
NEW HOPE STARKVL	4,904.37	4,904.37	9,808.74
NEW MONTELLIER	2,580.21	3,700.00	6,280.21
NEW SALEM	9,359.53	13,734.36	23,093.89
PHIEBA	3,650.79	4,271.90	7,922.69
PLEASANT HILL	25,349.00	16,475.80	41,824.80
PLYMOUTH	668.64	0.00	668.64
RYAN SPRINGS	3,743.49	882.00	4,625.49
RYAN SPRINGS	1,318.43	1,336.00	2,654.43
SILAM	3,600.00	2,344.00	5,944.00
STURGIS	5,630.73	10,979.88	16,6

	COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
TEMPLE HEIGHTS	259.21	726.89	986.10	CAMP CREEK	9,953.01	4,549.16	14,502.17	NEW HAVEN	488.67	244.34	733.01	SPRING CREEK	7,905.05	8,249.02	16,154.07
TRINITY	100.00	20.00	120.00	CHESTERVIEW	2,082.03	2,253.65	4,335.68	NORTHMINSTER	1,148.25	28,550.00	29,698.25	TRINITY	1,422.94	4,743.05	6,165.99
TULA	2,313.12	2,616.62	4,929.74	DOTY CHAPEL	3,431.43	3,952.17	7,383.60	NORTHSHIRE	2,046.24	7,920.91	9,967.15	WEST PHILADELPHIA	.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
UNION WEST	1,466.00	936.00	2,402.00	EAST HEIGHTS	23,252.48	23,251.17	46,503.65	OAK FOREST	22,086.30	16,721.84	38,808.14	WHITE OAK	.00	2,184.72	2,184.72
YELLOW LEAF	11,584.24	29,902.74	41,486.98	EAST TIT ZION	3,186.86	3,101.74	6,288.60	OVERVIEW	.00	506.00	506.00	TOTAL	121,791.86	190,522.88	312,314.74
TOTAL	246,037.24	231,631.59	477,668.83	ELUCUBA	2,133.90	1,333.33	3,467.23	OLD RICE ROAD	2,456.00	2,889.25	5,345.25				
LAMAR				FBC BALDWIN	48,761.28	13,528.01	62,289.29	OLD VICKSBURG RD	2,668.23	1,780.47	4,448.70	NEW CHOCTAW			
AUTUMN RIDGE	350.00	1,580.49	1,930.49	FBC GUNTOWN	5,306.85	1,824.45	7,131.30	PARKHILL	2,544.60	9,965.85	12,510.45	BOGUE CHITTO	147.38	650.76	798.14
BAXTERVILLE	3,089.21	1,149.00	4,238.21	FBC NETTLETON	14,644.00	3,543.34	18,187.34	PARKWAY	51,498.00	63,334.22	114,832.22	CALVARY	.00	40.00	40.00
BELLVIEW	6,983.01	.00	6,983.01	FBC PLANTERSVILLE	9,726.48	9,960.15	19,686.63	PINEVIEW	7,823.71	4,900.43	12,724.14	CANAN	130.55	570.72	701.27
BELLEVUE	8,018.61	11,360.13	19,378.74	FBC TIT ZION	36,955.18	17,244.11	54,199.29	POKONTAS	4,707.28	1,821.00	6,528.28	CORINTH	.00	300.00	300.00
COAL TOWN	1,530.85	3,061.72	4,592.57	FBC SHANNON	8,428.87	11,527.87	19,956.74	RAMOND ROAD	20,999.96	10,907.47	31,907.43	HOPE INDIAN	100.00	.00	100.00
CORINTH	3,416.00	5,510.77	8,926.77	FBC TUPELO	76,240.11	65,987.53	142,227.64	RIDGECREST	105,000.52	27,282.83	132,283.35	HOPEWELL	.00	100.00	100.00
FBC LUMBERTON	6,308.41	11,242.41	17,550.82	GRACE MEMORIAL	13,223.51	9,173.74	22,397.25	RIVERCREST FELLOWSHIP	250.00	150.00	400.00	MT ZION	.00	2,735.61	2,735.61
FBC OLOH	9,864.78	5,746.80	15,611.58	HARRISBURG	148,587.50	36,833.90	185,421.40	SALEM	5,200.50	2,822.50	8,023.00	PEARL RIVER COM	.00	926.00	926.00
FBC PURVIS	57,166.33	26,000.59	83,166.92	KOINONIA	119.32	642.72	762.04	SIMMONS MEMORIAL	283.14	765.14	1,048.28	TOTAL	377.93	5,323.09	5,701.02
FBC SUMRALL	30,271.44	29,893.94	60,165.38	LIMESTONE	576.50	1,451.50	2,028.00	SOUTHERN HILLS	1,080.00	910.00	1,990.00				
GATEWAY	25.00	125.00	150.00	MACEDONIA	4,505.63	4,355.00	8,860.63	SOUTHSIDE	3,000.00	5,353.02	8,353.02				
GOOD HOPE	2,875.50	2,928.90	5,804.40	MONUMENT DRIVE	2,711.17	6,915.44	9,626.61	TRACE RIDGE	17,813.13	9,562.62	27,375.75	BEAT LINE	764.39	1,230.10	1,994.49
GREENVILLE	1,067.93	110.75	1,178.68	MT SINAI	505.40	700.00	1,205.40	TWIN LAKES	13,931.48	8,337.34	22,268.82	BETHEL	930.00	2,215.00	3,145.00
HICKORY GROVE	1,651.66	378.00	2,029.66	MT VERNON	1,923.26	2,959.07	4,882.33	UTICA	11,838.00	10,679.45	22,517.45	BEULAH	4,562.50	9,527.99	14,090.49
MILITARY	19,673.45	10,304.33	29,977.78	NEW HOPE	6,891.62	7,525.00	14,416.62	WESTVIEW	750.00	1,130.00	1,880.00	CHUNY	6,755.89	6,480.00	13,235.89
OKAHOLA	1,536.17	2,190.78	3,726.95	OLD UNION	6,299.33	3,436.18	9,735.51	WILLOWOOD	13,266.91	28,099.64	41,366.55	CLARKE VENABLE	12,927.72	12,701.72	25,629.44
ORAL	2,888.01	2,664.00	5,552.01	OPEN DOOR	859.45	.00	859.45	WOODLAND HILLS	26,576.00	27,497.41	54,073.41	CONEHATTA	3,408.50	26,052.19	29,460.69
RICHBURG	1,175.31	6,959.69	8,135.00	PALESTINE	300.00	300.00	600.00	WOODVILLE HEIGHTS	14,854.46	10,655.64	25,510.10	COVENANT LIFE CH	1,793.23	6,741.16	8,534.39
TRINITY	250.00	2,000.00	2,250.00	PARKSIDE	.00	15.00	15.00	WYNNDALE	76,680.00	15,888.62	92,568.62	COVENANT LIFE CH	456.84	456.84	913.68
TOTAL	151,858.14	121,901.92	273,760.06	PARKWAY	16,644.50	9,371.93	26,016.43	YANDELL ROAD	560.00	140.00	700.00	DUFFER	1,000.00	1,500.00	2,500.00
LAUDERDALE				PRICKLE	5,199.95	5,369.98	10,569.93	TOTAL	1,883,484.301	1,511,378.89	3,394,863.19	EMMANUEL	2,170.37	1,507.00	3,677.37
ARKADELPHIA	5,748.00	4,083.00	9,831.00	RICHMOND	4,656.14	3,015.44	7,671.58	BENOTI	3,436.55	11,457.72	14,894.27	FBC NEWTON	54,025.42	36,548.70	90,574.12
ARROWOOD	300.00	900.00	1,200.00	SHERMAN	6,182.25	8,226.30	14,408.55	BETHEL	4,180.00	559.00	4,739.00	FBC UNION	30,699.62	24,660.90	55,360.52
BAILEY	.00	303.62	303.62	SKYLINE TUPELO	.00	200.00	200.00	BLAINE	500.00	1,614.00	2,114.00	GOOD HOPE	715.00	68.00	783.00
BETHANY	8,795.27	6,113.16	14,908.43	UNION CHAPEL	1,800.00	1,694.00	3,494.00	CALVARY	6,410.42	6,087.64	12,498.06	HAZEL	2,794.04	3,600.00	6,394.04
BRIARWOOD	4,500.00	8,403.86	12,903.86	WEST JACKSON ST	52,016.14	14,412.24	66,428.38	DOCKERY	.00	900.00	900.00	HICKORY	29,316.54	1,880.48	31,197.02
CALVARY	2,901.69	3,997.04	6,898.73	TOTAL	788,916.76	403,319.62	1,192,236.38	DREW	7,916.65	6,788.03	14,704.68	HOPEWELL	1,983.90	2,532.13	4,516.03
CARMEL	13,539.41	7,248.25	20,787.66	LEFLORE				DUNCAN	200.00	450.00	650.00	LAWRENCE	1,278.26	469.57	1,747.83
CAUSEVILLE	867.77	740.36	1,608.13	CALVARY	8,315.87	4,945.00	13,260.87	EASTWOOD	10,343.23	11,741.19	22,084.42	LIBERTY	2,684.00	3,650.00	6,334.00
CENTER GROVE	13,503.20	16,058.93	29,562.13	CHRIST	6,508.85	5,287.85	11,796.70	FAIRVIEW	1,417.00	3,477.00	4,894.00	MIDWAY	3,156.00	2,416.00	5,572.00
CENTRAL	8,200.00	8,892.98	17,092.98	FBC GREENWOOD	26,765.85	23,942.36	50,708.21	FBC ROYLE	1,111.33	1,084.96	2,196.29	MT VERNON	5,809.02	4,797.15	10,606.17
EIGHTH AVENUE	50,634.36	20,434.55	71,068.91	FBC BENVA	8,392.98	2,421.01	10,813.99	FBC CLEVELAND	55,541.63	56,035.80	111,577.43	NEWBREAD	1,975.89	1,604.81	3,580.70
FBC LAUDERDALE	8,686.28	5,205.31	13,891.59	FBC MINTER CITY	821.00	500.00	1,321.00	FBC INDIANOLA	27,827.27	20,705.67	48,532.94	PINKNEY	2,386.00	2,596.00	4,982.00
FBC MARION	9,486.74	10,305.36	19,792.10	IMMANUEL	9,218.90	5,496.34	14,715.24	FBC INVERNESS	2,416.65	3,557.80	5,974.45	POPLAR	.00	330.00	330.00
FBC MERIDIAN	36,666.69	61,388.88	98,055.57	MORGAN CITY	.00	4,745.99	4,745.99	FBC ROSELAND	1,717.00	3,862.74	5,579.74	POPLAR SPRINGS	800.75	3,601.09	4,401.84
FELLOWSHIP	13,263.57	9,608.91	22,872.48	MT VERNON	112.14	241.79	353.93	FST BELLEVUE/SHELBY	900.00	5,100.00	6,000.00	ROCK BRANCH	2,389.00	3,520.00	5,909.00
FIFTEENTH AVENUE	41,702.92	28,320.92	70,023.84	MT VERNON	34,916.56	22,460.00	57,376.56	INTERSTATE	1,400.00	1,400.00	2,800.00	SULPHUR SPRINGS	6,125.63	7,281.28	13,406.91
GOODWATER	1,386.69	2,416.69	3,803.38	PHILIPSTON	900.00	600.00	1,500.00	INTERSTATE	11,502.34	10,649.43	22,151.77	TOTAL	210,363.22	180,825.93	391,189.15
HICKORY	12,809.05	16,273.86	29,082.91	SCHLATER	300.00	.00	300.00	LINN	2,746.36	1,513.50	4,259.86	NORTH CENTRAL			
HICKORY GROVE	525.00	1,368.00	1,893.00	SIDON	300.00	.00	300.00	MERIGOLD	1,670.73	1,095.36	2,766.09	AIRPORT	581.64	1,594.78	2,176.42
HIGHLAND	81,349.16	46,750.36	128,099.52	TOTAL	96,993.37	74,461.55	171,454.92	MORHEAD	3,872.10	3,561.52	7,433.62	BRAZIL	353.80	353.80	707.60
LIBERTY	4,146.24	8,596.06	12,742.30	LINCOLN				MORRISON CHAPEL	8,656.20	3,617.92	12,274.12	CALVARY CHAPEL	777.10	1,177.30	1,954.40
LONG CREEK	1,081.00	5,781.51	6,862.51	ARLINGTON	5,460.96	6,123.19	11,584.15	PROVIDENCE	95.00	2,663.00	2,758.00	CORINTH	1,058.78	1,575.26	2,634.04
MACEDONIA	5,781.51	4,505.21	10,286.72	BETHEL	3,346.34	1,611.95	4,958.29	ROME	500.00	1,400.00	1,900.00	COWART	1,736.82	2,871.38	4,608.20
MIDWAY	60,027.76	22,366.58	82,394.34	BIG SPRINGS	1,228.68	1,382.89	2,611.57	ROUNDWAY	4,740.93	6,097.55	10,838.48	EMMANUEL	114,025.75	43,071.15	157,096.90
MT GILEAD	2,887.81	3,905.79	6,793.60	BOGUE CHITTO	7,248.37	4,605.04	11,853.41	RULEVILLE	9,000.00	7,593.50	16,593.50	ENON	17,293.55	2,601.17	19,894.72
MT HOBBS	4,485.43	2,990.28	7,475.71	BROOKWAY	194.00	300.00	494.00	SECOND INDIANOLA	1,521.44	1,504.44	3,025.88	FAITH	15,124.74	7,245.65	22,370.39
MT OLIVE	2,100.00	4,789.00	6,889.00	CALVARY	14,130.18	9,721.47	23,851.65	SKENE	15,394.50	9,521.33	24,915.83	FBC CHARLESTON	64,267.78	38,216.32	102,484.10
MT VERNON	4,710.92	5,459.66	10,170.58	CLEAR BRANCH	5,281.00	5,005.00	10,286.00	SOUTHSIDE	2,368.74	2,312.26	4,681.00	FBC GRENADA	2,500.04	11,000.00	13,500.04
NEW HOPE	19,295.09	12,254.32	31,549.41	EAST LINCOLN	25.00	50.00	75.00	SUNFLOWER	1,790.93	1,472.94	3,263.87	FBC SUMNER	2,896.09	4,268.35	7,164.44
NORTHCREEK	40,255.89	12,212.81	52,468.70	EASTHAVEN	56,762.34	51,737.64	108,499.98	WEST DREW	1,921.99	1,766.60	3,688.59	FBC TUTWILER	11,718.52	12,288.92	24,007.44
NORTHEAST	929.60	798.40	1,728.00	FAIR VIEW	12,598.05	19,047.10	31,645.15	YALE STREET	1,700.00	1,700.00	3,400.00	FRIENDSHIP	1,304.06	2,833.00	4,137.06
OAK GROVE	8,489.54	15,632.78	24,122.32	FBC BROOKHAVEN	77,647.58	9,975.99	87,623.57	TOTAL	200,914.03	209,866.15	410,780.18	FRIENDSHIP EAST	441.53	988.02	1,429.55
OAKLAND HEIGHTS	5,258.02	9,180.74	14,438.76	CLAYTON	10,801.50	8,655.35	19,456.85	MISSISSIPPI				GORE SPRINGS	4,059.23	4,613.77	8,673.00
POPLAR SPRINGS DR	53,004.00	51,354.35	104,358.35	GUM GROVE	4,885.73	4,311.02	9,196.75	ASSOCIATION	.00	240.00	240.00	HARDY	3,880.72	6,662.82	10,543.54
RUSSELL	27,742.00	27,984.31	55,726.31	HARMONY	1,938.23	3,315.81	5,254.04	BERKICK	3,884.00	1,745.00	5,629.00	HEBRON	8,625.40	6,196.27	14,821.67
SALEM	600.00	1,450.00	2,050.00	HEUCKS RETREAT	5,205.00	4,340.92	9,545.92	BETHEL	5,502.44	7,000.48	12,502.92	HOLCOMB	5,198.35	4,594.75	9,793.10
STATE BOULEVARD	19,668.80	22,652.83	42,321.63	HOLLY SPRINGS	1,500.00	185.00	1,685.00	CALVARY	3,302.32	5,119.52					

	COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL		COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL	
FIRST FAITH	889.96	1,216.07	2,106.03	RANKIN	ANDREW CHAPEL	343.37	1,961.72	2,305.09	BELMONT FIRST	2,599.98	12,379.15	14,979.13	PILGRIMS REST	1,756.00	3,111.00	4,867.00
GOOD HOPE	4,786.22	5,632.00	10,418.22	ANTIOCH-BRANDON	10,474.20	5,201.10	15,675.30	BETHLEHEM	382.41	659.74	1,042.15	REEDS CHAPEL	164.00	464.00	628.00	
HEBRON	2,666.60	1,399.24	4,065.84	ANTIOCH-FLORENCE	3,203.85	2,545.16	5,749.01	CALVARY	2,667.44	5,915.58	8,583.02	SAPA	1,288.07	500.00	1,788.07	
IMMANUEL	1,828.04	2,480.00	4,308.04	BARFOOT-SPRING	960.00	1,075.79	2,035.79	EASTPORT	116.80	2,557.32	2,674.12	TOMNOLAN	1,238.87	6,964.68	8,203.55	
LIBERTY HILL	5,172.00	3,861.13	9,033.13	BETHLEHEM	7,308.00	1,389.34	8,697.34	FBIC BURNSVILLE	636.38	1,911.35	2,547.73	UNION	1,171.16	2,083.52	3,254.68	
LOCKE STATION	3,971.95	8,186.61	12,158.56	BRIAR HILL	51,967.00	13,446.17	65,413.17	GOLDEN CENTRAL	11,158.42	18,242.05	29,400.47	WALTHAM	2,664.86	14,288.14	16,953.00	
NORTH BATESVILLE	1,666.93	777.00	2,443.93	CASTLEWOODS	15,677.81	9,367.92	25,045.73	HARMONY HILL	4,113.11	2,018.11	6,131.22	TOTAL	90,897.87	136,889.56	227,787.43	
PEACH CREEK	1,963.79	5,711.00	7,674.79	CEAR BRANCH	2,739.79	2,060.33	4,800.12	IUKA	12,499.98	8,925.66	21,425.64	WINSTON	956.00	2,990.00	3,946.00	
PHARSAIA	2,110.82	700.00	2,810.82	CLEAR BRANCH	18,204.76	15,138.26	33,343.02	MT MORIAH	1,343.76	1,450.00	2,793.76	ANTIOCH	3,180.18	3,484.08	6,664.26	
PILGRIMS REST	6,623.00	2,555.05	9,178.05	CONCORD	4,235.57	1,951.04	6,186.61	MT VERNON	6,668.20	1,290.00	7,958.20	BETHLEHEM	10,863.72	8,454.45	19,318.17	
POPE	39.45	177.18	216.63	COUNTY LINE	6,000.00	500.00	6,500.00	NEW LIBERTY	5,428.00	4,730.03	10,158.03	CALVARY	10,863.72	8,454.45	19,318.17	
ROSE HILL	4,610.03	2,000.00	6,610.03	CROSSROADS	25,000.00	38,194.80	63,194.80	NEW PROSPECT	3,492.75	5,415.86	8,908.61	CRYSTAL RIDGE	1,282.00	2,541.38	3,823.38	
SARDIS LAKE	2,400.00	3,703.47	6,103.47	CROSSVIEW	4,334.46	5,868.30	10,202.76	OLD UNION	1,740.49	2,781.79	4,522.28	DRY CREEK	3,028.00	1,280.00	4,308.00	
SHADY GROVE	2,028.33	1,137.33	3,165.66	EASTSIDE PEARL	24,812.92	13,902.21	38,715.13	PADEN	585.90	1,352.22	1,938.12	EAST LOUISVILLE	2,494.58	3,290.12	5,784.70	
TOWANA	1,000.00	100.00	1,100.00	EASTSIDE PELAHATCHIE	1,260.00	1,879.15	3,139.15	SHADY GROVE	45.00	155.00	200.00	ELLISON RIDGE	1,052.06	682.00	1,734.06	
WEST BATESVILLE	176,600.96	118,962.98	295,563.94	FBIC BRANDON	259,065.00	91,543.08	350,608.08	SOUTH CROSSROADS	1,431.69	1,350.00	2,781.69	ENON	1,314.05	9,738.48	11,052.53	
PEARL RIVER	8,767.67	5,891.32	14,658.99	FBIC FANNIN	9,786.20	13,300.84	23,087.04	TISHOMINGO	10,547.96	10,411.72	20,959.68	FBIC LOUISVILLE	91,749.72	78,791.19	170,540.91	
BETHLEHEM	2,223.81	7,481.05	9,704.86	FBIC FLORENCE	24,999.98	17,159.83	42,159.81	UNION	671.49	465.43	1,136.92	GOOD HOPE	0.00	4,160.96	4,160.96	
CORINTH	1,302.02	0.00	1,302.02	FBIC PEARL	30,470.68	34,046.95	64,517.63	UNION CHURCH	3,045.69	4,326.43	7,372.12	GUM BRANCH	316.03	580.00	896.03	
CRANE CREEK	7,514.20	3,425.10	10,939.30	FBIC RICHLAND	39,680.92	24,726.38	64,407.30	TOTAL	68,725.25	89,553.09	158,278.34	HARMONY	7,002.49	6,925.24	13,927.73	
DERBY	2,189.00	3,353.51	5,542.51	FLOOWOOD	16,420.67	782.34	17,203.01	UNION CO	3,755.70	934.00	4,689.70	LIBERTY	2,566.63	2,464.66	5,031.29	
EMMANUEL	150.00	150.00	300.00	GRACE	381.88	5,894.05	6,275.93	BEECH GROVE	46.77	46.77	93.54	MACEDONIA	1,125.00	874.98	1,999.98	
FAITH MEMORIAL	135.00	1,399.24	1,534.24	GUNTER ROAD	1,225.00	1,794.00	3,019.00	BETHESDA	406.59	406.59	813.18	MARS HILL	1,168.71	2,243.71	3,412.42	
FBIC CARRIERS	1,500.00	1,026.00	2,526.00	HICKORY RIDGE	3,101.00	3,398.00	6,499.00	ELMO	1,581.36	1,873.14	3,454.50	MURPHY CREEK	5,069.43	5,278.66	10,348.09	
FBIC NICHOLSON	1,074.34	2,582.07	3,656.41	JOHNS	2,247.14	2,430.41	4,677.55	FAYETTE	2,952.00	3,245.00	6,197.00	NOXAPATER	19,480.17	8,275.00	27,755.17	
FBIC PIZAYNE	81,909.59	68,145.03	150,054.62	LAKE HARBOR	772.32	1,872.46	2,644.78	HERMANVILLE	1,002.50	1,380.64	2,383.14	OAK GROVE	6,490.00	6,490.00	12,980.00	
FBIC POPLARVILLE	25,887.97	31,375.06	57,263.03	LAKESHORE	13,453.13	4,092.10	17,545.23	PATTISON	384.40	409.40	793.80	POPLAR FLAT	1,642.00	3,113.00	4,755.00	
FLAT TOP UNITY	1,967.72	2,464.00	4,431.72	LIBERTY	10,529.50	5,614.50	16,144.00	PLEASANT HILL	1,657.00	2,391.00	4,048.00	SHILOH	3,065.32	3,136.89	6,202.21	
FORDS CREEK	1,308.00	2,464.00	3,772.00	LIFELINE	482.36	268.99	751.35	PORT GIBSON	6,364.44	6,743.04	13,107.48	SINGLETON	6,724.00	874.00	7,598.00	
GOODYEAR	9,554.52	7,907.71	17,462.23	LIGHTHOUSE	144.91	289.84	434.75	RED LICK	557.26	1,213.74	1,771.00	SOUTH LOUISVILLE	7,628.00	1,726.00	9,354.00	
GRACE MEMORIAL	72.44	464.14	536.58	MCLAURIN HEIGHTS	42,259.69	31,160.12	73,419.81	SHILOH	1,189.98	7,106.93	8,296.91	UNION RIDGE	1,000.00	405.00	1,405.00	
GUM POND	3,000.14	2,884.49	5,884.63	MEADOW GROVE	2,575.73	3,135.34	5,711.07	UNION CHURCH	691.00	182.00	873.00	WESS CHAPEL	1,716.73	3,091.73	4,808.46	
HARMONY	2,575.73	1,761.00	4,336.73	MOUNTAIN CREEK	3,281.00	3,135.34	6,416.34	TOTAL	19,892.99	29,367.68	49,260.67	WEST END	685.00	1,753.00	2,438.00	
HILLCREST	1,443.67	9,437.33	10,881.00	MT PISCATAWAY	8,452.09	5,354.08	13,806.17	UNION CO	3,755.70	934.00	4,689.70	YELLOW CREEK	60.00	0.00	60.00	
INUNTER GROVE	6,902.43	1,825.36	8,727.79	MT ZION	3,504.00	5,760.61	9,264.61	ABRAHAM	3,755.70	934.00	4,689.70	TOTAL	173,761.24	155,756.00	329,517.24	
NEW HENLEYFIELD	1,693.96	8,369.64	10,063.60	OKADALE	18,217.54	3,530.00	21,747.54	BEECH SPRINGS	200.00	556.00	756.00	WALOBUSHA	9,686.00	9,331.57	19,017.57	
NEW PALESTINE	9,127.14	4,348.82	13,475.96	PARK PLACE	85,333.88	37,260.87	122,604.75	BETHLEHEM	872.00	8,273.00	9,145.00	BETHLEHEM	778.00	0.00	778.00	
OAK HILL	4,069.89	5,262.00	9,331.89	PAUL TRUITT MEM'L	10,871.16	9,941.30	20,812.46	ELMO	1,581.36	1,873.14	3,454.50	CAMP GROUND	544.73	1,060.36	1,605.09	
OLIVE	5,471.19	13,469.00	18,940.19	PELASHATCHIE	24,440.15	8,253.19	32,693.34	BETHLEHEM	2,772.82	1,255.00	4,027.82	CLEAR SPRINGS	75.00	166.79	241.79	
PARKVIEW	16,185.00	2,038.21	18,223.21	PINE LAKE	78,712.06	9,343.80	88,055.86	CENTER	5,609.20	4,582.00	10,191.20	DELAY ROAD	75.00	170.00	245.00	
PINE GROVE	30,764.00	20,771.00	51,535.00	PROVIDENCE	2,507.34	2,234.44	4,741.78	CORINERSVILLE	2,165.80	4,011.20	6,177.00	ELAM	771.15	695.58	1,466.73	
ROLLING HILLS	3,659.36	5,112.52	8,771.88	PUCKETT	13,183.81	10,971.40	24,155.21	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	FBIC COFFEYVILLE	14,276.00	14,479.60	28,755.60	
ROSELAND PARK	11,675.11	16,409.19	28,084.30	REHOBETH	3,284.80	1,870.15	5,154.95	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	FBIC WATER VALLEY	21,999.96	53,291.33	75,291.29	
SPRING HILL	22,030.21	6,038.02	28,068.23	ROBINHOOD	716.34	881.22	1,597.56	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	FRIENDSHIP	818.10	950.00	1,768.10	
STEPP HOLLOW	11,675.11	16,409.19	28,084.30	ROCK BLUFF	6,829.57	4,819.48	11,649.05	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	HOPEWELL	612.10	2,419.99	3,032.09	
UNITED	4,441.04	295.90	4,736.94	STAR	48,097.07	18,324.55	66,421.62	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	NEW HOPE	210.00	1,300.00	1,510.00	
WEST POPLARVILLE	883.35	1,665.02	2,548.37	THORN HILL	114.36	1,158.20	1,272.56	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	O TUCKALOFA	3,112.00	1,610.38	4,722.38	
WHITE SAND	279,453.69	266,945.68	546,399.37	UNION	1,560.00	4,105.00	5,665.00	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	PINE GROVE	900.00	2,200.00	3,100.00	
PERRY	1,685.00	0.00	1,685.00	WALKER HILL	7,994.84	1,340.00	9,334.84	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	SYLVIA RIVER	7,677.61	5,836.67	13,514.28	
ARLINGTON	2,326.00	1,533.00	3,859.00	SCOTT	996,780.18	517,650.25	1,514,430.43	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	WALOBUSHA	9,686.00	9,331.57	19,017.57	
BUCK CREEK	773.59	625.22	1,398.81	ASSOCIATION	0.00	204.00	204.00	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	BETHLEHEM	778.00	0.00	778.00	
CALVARY	640.38	0.00	640.38	BETHLEHEM	4,948.07	4,257.00	9,205.07	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	CAMP GROUND	544.73	1,060.36	1,605.09	
EASTSIDE	400.00	0.00	400.00	BRANCH	6,713.98	4,925.47	11,639.45	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	CLEAR SPRINGS	75.00	166.79	241.79	
FBIC ALUMONT	6,012.44	2,448.02	8,460.46	CALVARY	1,258.60	2,554.45	3,813.05	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	DELAY ROAD	75.00	170.00	245.00	
FBIC NEW ALBANY	3,588.00	4,652.34	8,240.34	CASH	720.00	725.00	1,445.00	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	ELAM	771.15	695.58	1,466.73	
FBIC RICHMOND	33,592.00	19,569.50	53,161.50	CLIFTON	3,081.02	387.09	3,468.11	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	FBIC COFFEYVILLE	14,276.00	14,479.60	28,755.60	
FBIC RICHMOND	8,002.97	6,741.25	14,744.22	CLOVERVILLE	1,038.65	387.09	1,425.74	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	FBIC WATER VALLEY	21,999.96	53,291.33	75,291.29	
GOOD HOPE	1,380.00	4,830.00	6,210.00	EAST FORT	600.00	1,135.00	1,735.00	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	FRIENDSHIP	818.10	950.00	1,768.10	
INDIAN SPRINGS	4,381.54	8,067.78	12,449.32	EPHESUS	8,038.59	7,695.00	15,733.59	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	HOPEWELL	612.10	2,419.99	3,032.09	
JANICE	1,005.50	1,716.28	2,721.78	FBIC LAKE	5,566.79	1,750.00	7,316.79	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	NEW HOPE	210.00	1,300.00	1,510.00	
LOOP ROAD	1,059.20	1,392.47	2,451.67	FBIC MORTON	39,709.97	23,132.76	62,842.73	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	O TUCKALOFA	3,112.00	1,610.38	4,722.38	
MEMORIAL	1,353.66	0.00	1,353.66	HARPERVILLE	5,539.39	3,844.69	9,384.08	FBIC NEW ALBANY	45,926.14	35,651.62	81,577.76	PINE				

JUST FOR THE RECORD

Old Union Church, Lee County, recently held a commissioning service for **Chad and Keyesy Logan**. They are new missionaries and are to make their home in Spain. Pictured (from left) are Chad and Keyesy Logan; Kenneth Kelly, pastor; and Matt Buckles, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, special guest.



The Logan's, Kelly, and Buckles

GAs of **First Church, Pecan Grove, Ellisville**, made hygiene packets for a mission in Brazil.



GAs of First Church Pecan Grove, Ellisville

Michelle Matthews, a missionary from Texas, distributed the packets during a medical mission in June. Pictured (from left, front row) are Savanna Wheeler, Denise Godwin, Dorothy Ard; (second row) Kaitlin McNeill, Lenzi Weems; (back row) Samatha Lambert, Megan Ezell, Kayla Hughes, and Mary Everett, teacher. Chris Wheeler is pastor.



Youth of Union Church, Tylertown

Youth group of **Union Church, Tylertown**, attended Centrifuge 2002 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly on July 13-18. Pictured in the group are Jake Gaskin, Frankie Hilburn, Josh Gaskin, Hope McEwen, Milliard Moak, Christa Brumfield, Stephanie Harper, Pam Brumfield, Heather McElveen, and Diane Boyd.

The combined sanctuary choirs of **First Church, Hazlehurst**, and **Crystal Springs**, will present *Experiencing God* on Sept. 8 at 10:30 a.m. in Hazlehurst and at 6 p.m. in Crystal Springs. Rick Mann and James Beasley, ministers of music, will direct the presentation.

A patriotic service will be held at **Cedar View Church, Olive Branch**, Sept. 8 at 11 a.m. A community sing featuring *Walk by Faith* will be held Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. For additional information, call (662) 895-2426.

The Second Annual Bible Conference at **Lebanon Church, Ripley**, will be held Sept. 23 and 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., including lunch. For additional information, call (662) 837-8107. Revival will be held Sept. 23-25 at 7 p.m. nightly. The evangelist will be Jimmy Russell. Andy Russell will lead the music. Steven Essary is pastor.

Neshoba Church, Union, will celebrate its 125th anniversary on Sept. 21-22. There will be special music, testimonies, preaching, a catfish dinner on Saturday, and a fellowship dinner on Sunday. For additional information, contact Betty Hemphill at (601) 389-0090.



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REVIVALS

Baxterville (Lamar): Sept. 15-20; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Ron Alexander, Poplarville, evangelist; Kim James, Hattiesburg, music; Raymond Parkin, pastor.

Clear Branch, Wesson: Sept. 8-11; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Clark Stewart, Crystal Springs, evangelist; Tim Morrison, Monticello, music; Wayne Moak, pastor.

Zion Hill, Wesson: Sept. 8-11; Sunday, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m.; Training Union, 6 p.m.; and worship, 6:45 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Step Martin, Shreveport, La., guest speaker; Price Harris, Shreveport, La., music.

Williamsville, Kosciusko: One Nation Under God; Sept. 8-11; Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon service and meal; and 7 p.m.

Glade, Laurel: Sept. 15-18; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Gary Bowlin, Summit, evangelist; R.L. and Beth Sigrest, Yazoo City, music; Mike Thompson, pastor.

Topeka, Jayess: Sept. 8-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and evening services at 7 p.m.; Don Taylor, Conehatta, evangelist; Mickey Sandifer, Jayess, music; Dale Authement, pastor.

D'Lo (Simpson): Sept. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Sonny Adkins, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Jeff Sanders, D'Lo, music; Robert Sones, pastor.

New Salem, Caledonia: Sept. 22-25; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; youth blast, 6:30 p.m.; Jackie Kay, Millington, Tenn., evangelist; Bert Damron, New Salem Church, music.

Macedonia Church, Meridian: Sept. 15-18; 7 p.m.; Randall Creel, Forest, evangelist; Benny Egger, Macedonia Church, music; Janson C. Gross, pastor.

Hernando, Hernando: Sept. 8-11; Sunday, 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. and Tues., noon and 7 p.m.; Wed., noon and 6:30 p.m.; Gary Bowlin, evangelist; Bill Herman, worship leader; James L. Spencer, pastor; for additional information, call the church office (662) 429-6361.

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1. Lord, I admit that I need you. *(I have sinned.)*
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. *(I repent.)*
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. *(I believe in Jesus.)*
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with him. *(I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)*

But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name (John 1:12).

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

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NAMES IN THE NEWS



GAs of Belden Church, Belden

GAs at Belden Church, Belden, received their bracelets and charms on July 10. Pictured (from left, top row) Lara Nanney and Hayley Asters received their third charm; (bottom row) Carley Carruth, Bailey Scott, and Haley Sharpe received their bracelets and world adventure charm; Stormy Payne will receive her bracelet at a later date. Leaders pictured are Faye Clayton (left) and Sandra Scott (right).



Eastwood Church Deacon Ordination, Indianola

First Church, Terry, recently held a deacon ordination council and service for Steven Bell, Randy Dearman, and Lee Agnew. Pictured

(from left) are Bell; Dearman; John Pace, pastor; and Agnew.

Deacon ordination was held at Eastwood Church, Indianola on July 28. Pictured are Bobby Chrestman and wife Billie, David Farmer and wife Denise, Danny Fike and wife Linda, and Donnie Upton and wife Barbara.

James W. Otts was honored as a lifetime deacon of 52 years at Eastwood Church, Indianola, on July 28. Pictured are Billy R. Thomas, pastor; Buddy Otts, deacon, presenting certificate to his father; James Otts and wife Ruth.



Bell, Dearman, Pace, and Agnew

First Church, Vancleave, will celebrate its 100th anniversary throughout the month of September. The celebration will culminate with a 100th anniversary celebration that will take place Friday, Sept. 27 through Sunday, Sept. 29. Speakers will be Felix Greer with guest Stan Henson and Neil Harris on Sept. 8; Randy Davis with guest Jimmy Henry and Neil Harris and Stan Henson on Sept. 15; Hal Lee with guest Buford Myrick on Sept. 22; gospel sing at 7 p.m. featuring former and present members of First Church; Heritage Day and picnic from 4-6 p.m., and worship with Bruce Fisher at 6 p.m. on Sept. 28; celebration will be held Sept. 29 with Greg Potts in the morning service, and Pat Mobley and Frank Lescallete in the afternoon service. Services will be held in the evening except Davis will be preaching in the morning service on Sept. 15.

Belden Church, Belden, will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 28 and Sunday, Sept. 29. Activities on Saturday include church fellowship hall, 2-4 p.m.; Sunday, worship, 8:30 a.m., and 10 a.m.,



Billy Thomas, Buddy Otts, James and Ruth Otts

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For references and more information, call Mike Brooks at 601-420-0174 or 1-800-442-0290.

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COLLEGE NEWS



Andrea Padova

The William Carey College School of Music will present Italian pianist Andrea Padova in concert Sept.

10 at 7 p.m. in the Smith Auditorium on the Hattiesburg campus. Padova is the winner of the 1995 J. S. Bach International Piano Competition. He has performed in concert throughout the world, including Carnegie Hall in New York, Washington D.C., Chicago, Greece, Israel, Rome, and Istanbul. Padova earned degrees in piano at the Accademia Nazionale di S. Cecilia in Rome. Padova's performances will feature selected works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Liszt, and Ravel. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For more information, call (601) 318-6175.



Join us for Light Up Your Holidays 2002

This December 3-6 senior adults can be part of a delightful event that captures the wonder and beauty of Christmas. Light Up Your Holidays, scheduled at two locations, features inspirational messages and music, as well as exciting local attractions.

The Ridgecrest, North Carolina, location features the Candlelight Christmas Tour and Dinner at the Biltmore Estate near Asheville. To register, write LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center, P.O. Box 128; Ridgecrest, North Carolina 28770; or call 1-800-588-7222.

The Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, site includes Colonial Patriots in costume telling Christmas stories, holiday dining with time-period entertainment, and a tour of this historic area. To register, write Light Up Your Holidays 2002; LifeWay Events Registration, P.O. Box 24001; Nashville, Tennessee 37202; or call 1-800-254-2022.

Don't delay! Your senior adults will experience "Joy... For the Journey" through this memorable holiday event.

For more information about events, visit LifeWay on the Web at www.lifeway.com and click on the "Events" link.

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Church Resources

Woman's parents: 9/11 'never goes away'

BILLERICA, Mass. (BP) — Steve and Karen Sachs, whose daughter Jessica was aboard the first plane to crash into the World Trade Center Sept. 11, say they haven't made it through the past year on their own strength.

"Karen and I have said many times that we wonder how people who have no faith survive a time like this," Steve Sachs said. "We're both convinced that many people have been praying for us, and it's by God's grace that we've kept our sanity since September."

The Sachs, members of New Colony Baptist Church, northeast of Boston, continue to struggle with how and why they lost their daughter.

Steve Sachs said there have been a lot of times when they've been angry at God. They've maintained their faith, but they still have questions. He also admitted he has not yet forgiven the 19 terrorists who hijacked the planes that day.

"Jessica didn't die on Sept. 11. She was murdered," he said.

Karen Sachs said she and her daughter, who was 23 years of age, were extremely close. In fact, she said she couldn't imagine a mother and daughter who could be closer than they were. "When she died, I lost a friend as well as a daughter," she said.

Jessica was a 2000 graduate of the University of Massachusetts and an accountant with the Boston office of PricewaterhouseCoopers. She was on American Airlines Flight 11 with her co-workers, bound for a meeting in Los Angeles.

Jessica knew Jesus, her mother said. "I was hysterical for the first 15 minutes after I heard the news, but my first clear thought after that was, 'Thank God we know that she's a Christian.' We know where she is."

"That's what's gotten us

through it. We know where she is now," Karen Sachs said.

Last September, her father had said, "The only thing holding the family together is that we know Jessica is being held in the arms of Christ." The family has clung to that hope for the past year.

After someone loses a loved one, Sachs said, people say that after five or ten months it will be OK. He said that has not been true for him and his wife.

They have a hole in their hearts that they'll always carry with them, he said.

"Karen and I are in a gray zone in the middle. We don't have any highs and we don't have any lows. It's a very flat plane of life we walk through," Steve Sachs said.

"Every time we think about Jessica, it hurts. Everybody tells us that someday down the road some joy will come back to those memories, but right now it hurts," he said.

PricewaterhouseCoopers set up a scholarship in Jessica's name at UMass Amherst. Steve and Karen attended the awards dinner this past school year. The couple said what amazes them is that the school is still so proud of Jessica.

"The dean of the school of management sat with us at dinner, and one of his comments was, 'I've never seen a student that was as spiritual as Jessica.

Kids don't come to college and keep their religion.' Jessica walked with God," Steve said.

In the first days after they received news of the crash, the

Sachs imagined that Jessica had spent her final moments telling other passengers about Jesus. Since then, they've learned that because she was on the first plane to crash into the World Trade Center, she probably didn't know what was happening until seconds before impact. "I don't know what she was doing in her last minutes, but she was likely praying," Karen Sachs said. "We're just thankful that if she had to be involved, she was on the first plane and not the second because [the second] had longer to know what was going on."

Steve and Karen were notified at the end of July that their daughter's remains had been identified. They initially didn't participate in DNA sampling because they assumed there wouldn't be anything to find since Jessica was aboard a plane that crashed into the World Trade Center.

Then authorities encouraged them to participate, and they sent a sample in April. The local chief of police and one of New Colony Church's associate pastors delivered the news to the Sachs' home July 29.

The Sachs held a small memorial service Aug. 16. Karen Sachs said it was a time for family and close friends to

gather and spend some time with her remains in prayer, Scripture reading, and sharing of memories.

"Death without a body is very difficult. This is one more step on the road to help us," she said. "There will never be any closure for this, but it's one more thing to help us accept it. It's just something we need to do."

Steve and Karen said they have learned important lessons through their trial. They are telling Jessica's story and how God is helping them deal with their loss because, as Karen said, they "don't want Jessica's death to have been for nothing."

"In our normal life we live with a lot of petty things, and we just don't have time for them anymore," Steve said. "We realize how precious time is and how precious family is."

"In a way we're blessed because we have no regrets. We really did do what we think was right with our kids so we don't struggle with that, but when we see other parents with their children we understand that they just need to spend more time with them."

Losing a child, Karen said, is a horrible thing to go through, which she hopes others never face.

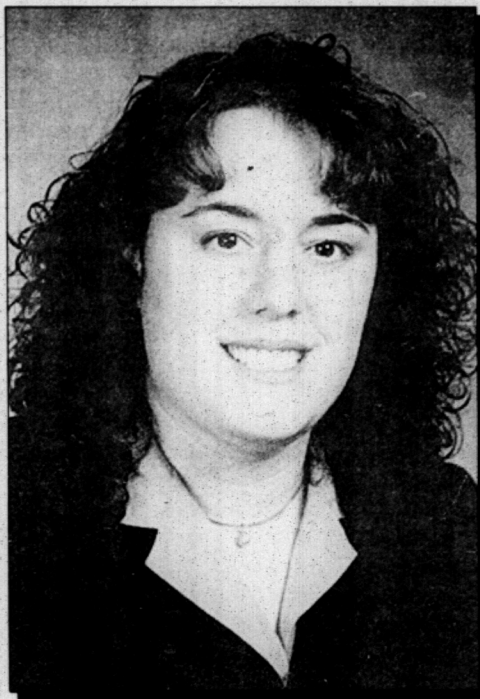
"If you do, God will give you the strength you need when you need it to make it through. God gave us the strength. It's not easy, but you get through."

"If someone had told me before this happened that my daughter would be killed, I would have said I would have laid right down and died with her because I couldn't handle it, but God has gotten us through," she said.

To those considering becoming Christians, Karen said, "It's something that you just can't put off. Jessica didn't know when she got on that airplane that she was going to die."

The Sachs ask that Christians continue to pray for the families who lost loved ones Sept. 11.

"This is something that isn't going to end anytime soon. Sept. 11 never goes away, and it never will. We're going to deal with it for the rest of our lives. Pray that God continues to strengthen us."



Jessica Sachs

Homecomings

New Providence, Carthage: Sept. 15; registration begins at 9 a.m., followed by worship service, dinner on the grounds, and other activities.

Mt. Nelson (Neshoba): 160th anniversary; Sept. 8; activities begin at 10:45 a.m. with Wayne Sanders, former pastor, bringing the message; lunch served following morning service; Mack Alford, pastor.

Friendship, Aberdeen: Sept. 29; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., worship, 11 a.m., and dinner on the grounds, 12:30 p.m.; Todd Bowen, pastor, message; Charlie Ransier, Baldwin, music.

Shalom, Silver Creek: Sept. 15; 11 a.m.; meal following worship service; Ray Hodges, former pastor, guest speaker; Doug Saxon, pastor.

Alexander Memorial, James Crossing: Sept. 8; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish lunch; Buddy Hampton, former pastor, guest speaker; Rick Griffin, pastor.

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HOME COMING - Leland Lakeview Baptist Church 50th Anniversary Sunday, September 22, 2002; services begin at 10:30 am, dinner and afternoon singing, S.B. Boyette, pastor.

SEEKING: SMALL SOUTHERN Baptist Church is seeking experience, full-time pastor. Will be accepting resumes until November 1, 2002, mail to: Pastor Search Committee, Gardner Baptist Church, P.O. Box 506, Hamburg, AR. 71646.

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BI-VOCATIONAL MINISTER sought by small country church. Mail resume to Rocky Springs Baptist Church, c/o Sylvia Vandever, 4320 Eden Midway Road, Yazoo City, MS 39194-8608. Church is located approximately 16 miles north of Yazoo City.

NEWHEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH: Part-time youth minister (weekends only); send resumes to: P.O. Box 37, Newhebron, MS 39140 or fax to 601-694-2252.



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FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

God of grace and glory

Ezekiel 18:1-3, 19-20, & 23-32

By Gene Neal

How many parents have watched their child kick the dog, push little sister, eat one more cookie or some other undesirable behavior. Then, when asked about it, respond by simply saying that they didn't do it. They were seen. They knew they had been caught but something inside told them, "deny it." Life becomes very easy when there is no personal accountability. Perhaps this philosophy began in the garden when Adam blamed Eve or when Eve blamed the serpent. Wherever and whenever it began, it was a strong idea among the Jewish people during the Babylonian captivity, the time frame for the writings of the prophet Ezekiel. Not only was it popular to deny personal responsibility, the Jews

had adopted a proverb to make this bad attitude sound official and proper. It was their use of this proverb that God dealt with in the 18th chapter of Ezekiel's writings.

First, notice the call for responsible people. We see it in God's response to this evil proverb being used by the Jewish people. The proverb is found in Ezekiel 18:2. Some have said the reference to "sour grapes" might even be a reference to the forbidden fruit of the garden. Others suggest that the use of the word "children" is an attempt to claim innocence. One way or another, the people were saying that their situation (Babylonian captivity) was punishment for the sins of a past generation. God strongly rebuked them for this irre-



Neal

sponsible attitude. This should cause us to take a look at other places in scripture where responsibility and accountability are taught. In the creation story, God gave humans the responsibility of multiplying, subduing the earth, and having dominion over creation. Jesus told several parables which taught the concepts of responsibility and accountability such as the parable of the talents found in Matthew 25 and Luke 19. The Bible also teaches that the greater the privilege, the greater the responsibility. Jesus concluded one parable by saying, "And from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more." (NAS) The Bible is full of examples of the troubles that come when people, especially God's people, shirk responsibility and blame others for personal failure. Apparently, today's generation has not

learned from this ample supply of lessons. We see a lack of responsibility in nearly every area of society. Ask a school teacher! It is never the student's fault, is it? Even Christian parents fall to this temptation as they step in and try to save their child from the pain and embarrassment of a wrong done, but in the process, teach that it is proper to avoid personal responsibility and accountability. Without a doubt God speaks as clearly to today's world as he did in Ezekiel's day about this need for personal responsibility.

Next, we should notice the case for a reasonable God. The people of that day would cry that God was not fair in his judgments as some would say today. God presents a case for his fairness, his judgment, and his grace. In Ezekiel 18, verses 23 through 29, the argument is clear that an individual is judged by God based on his life and none other. He states that evil results in death and righteousness results in life. As New Testament believers, we under-

stand that true righteousness comes through a relationship by grace and not individual actions. In this grace relationship we are judged for eternity through the redemptive work of Christ. Our actions - our behavior - can not and will not cause us to lose that eternal salvation because it is based on Christ's work and not ours. God is fair, gracious, and reasonable in all his judgments.

Finally, there is a call to repentance. God clearly rebukes man's irresponsibility and proves his own fairness. Yet, even in the midst of that, he offers grace. Verses 23 and 32 show us the heart of God. These words remind us of II Peter 3:9 when Peter writes that the Lord is "not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance." (NAS) While a rebuke and correction, Ezekiel's words were actually very positive then and now. We are held accountable! He is perfectly fair! His ultimate desire is to offer grace to all!

Neal is pastor of First Church, Quitman.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Willing to see

John 1:19-51

By Ginger Caughman

"Are you a preacher's wife?" The question was a common one when attending Baptist gatherings. I replied, "No."

"Well then, are you a minister of education?" "No."

While preparing to lead my first state conference for Vacation Bible School, I was in Atlanta many years ago for a Baptist Sunday School Board Conference (now LifeWay). The questioner persisted. "Are you a Youth Director?" "No."

The next question was a total surprise. "Well, who are you anyway?" Not knowing how to reply, I mumbled something like, "Well, I'm just a Christian."

En route home from the wonderful meeting, our leader, Nolan Johnston, asked our group for an evaluation. We all shared the inspiring things we

had heard and experienced. I laughingly told them of the interrogation I had initially received and my feeble response. I asked, "Seriously, Nolan, what could I have said?" Our Education Director for the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans gave me wise counsel. "Next time, just say you are a Co-laborer with Christ!" I've used the line many times since.

1. Ask Good Questions. Read John 1:19-23.

Unlike my uncertain response, John the Baptist was not timid with his reply. He knew how to answer the religious leaders and first quoted from their Scripture. See Isaiah 40:3. He declared clearly and concisely that he was not the Christ and pointed instead to his role of preparing for the coming



Caughman

Messiah. Christ is the Greek equivalent for the Hebrew word, Messiah. Both terms mean "the anointed one."

Do you have questions about the identity of Jesus? You can learn more by asking honest questions. Be sure to ask questions of those you think will know the answers.

2. Hear True Teaching. Read John 1:24-27, 29-34.

John the Baptist identified Jesus as the Christ, the Lamb of God, and the Son of God.

Who do you know who can help you know more about Jesus and expand your understanding of the Lord? Regularly meet with other Christians for Bible study and worship of our living Lord.

The world will soon advertise the buying of things for the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus. Prepare yourself spiritually before Advent for the busy season of Christmas. Focus on God's Word and his will for you and your family.

Do you know the magnificent music "Messiah" by George

Frederic Handel? You've probably heard or sung the well-known "Hallelujah Chorus." Born in 1685, Handel composed the music "Messiah" in 1741 in just 24 days. His inspired music is based on texts from the Old and New Testament.

Listen to the Christmas or Easter portions of music. If it's your first time to hear an oratorio, listen to the moving "Messiah" choruses. One in particular caused this Scripture in John 1:29 to sing in my spirit. The words of John: "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world."

Pray: "He must increase and I must decrease." John the Baptist knew that the purpose of his ministry was to preach repentance and prepare the way for Jesus the Christ.

3. Act on Opportunities to Learn. Read John 1:35-37.

How receptive are you to new ideas? The disciples of John were open to learning more about Jesus as soon as John the Baptist identified Jesus as the Son of God. You and I will learn more as we are open to God's

Holy Spirit working in our minds and hearts.

Daily as we seek to better understand our real life, we need to recognize Christ at work in us and around us. We also need to be willing to see real life. Bible study this week is designed to help us in our spiritual quest.

Read the background passage, John 1:45-51. Note that Nathanael's response to Philip's news about Jesus came from tradition. He said, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" But at Philip's invitation, "come and see," Nathanael acted on the opportunity to learn first hand. Read the wondrous personal encounter Nathanael had with the Son of God. Pray to be willing to see Jesus anew today! Worship him with others this Sunday.

Like John, we can point others past ourselves to our Lord and Savior. Like Nathanael, we can choose to take advantage of opportunities to learn more about Jesus.

Caughman is a member of First Church, Magee.

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News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats,



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Please make articles concise. Include the **who, what, when, where** details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted.

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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of **The Village View** is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Missionary appointees' resolve unwavering

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — On Nov. 13, barely two months after the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, a record 124 missionaries were appointed by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board (IMB).

The catastrophe of Sept. 11 didn't cause any of them to drop out. From Columbia, S.C., those new missionaries scattered to every point on the compass, all 15 of the regions in which the IMB works.

How has the past year gone for them? How have they been affected by the events of Sept. 11?

As news of the attacks spread worldwide, Cal and Patty McIntire began receiving e-mails asking if they still would be going to West Africa.

"Our answer never wavered," they wrote. "It was always 'Yes!' Somehow an attack such as the one on 9/11, no matter how devastating, could not overshadow the call of God."

John Arnold, now a missionary in western South America, has similar sentiments.

"The attacks did not cause me to waver in my commitment to my calling to go to foreign lands," he wrote. "On the contrary, my call was confirmed by these attacks!"

"As I saw firefighters [in New York City] risking their lives to save others from the fire, I realized that as Christians we are also involved in risking our lives to save millions of lost people from an eternal fire."

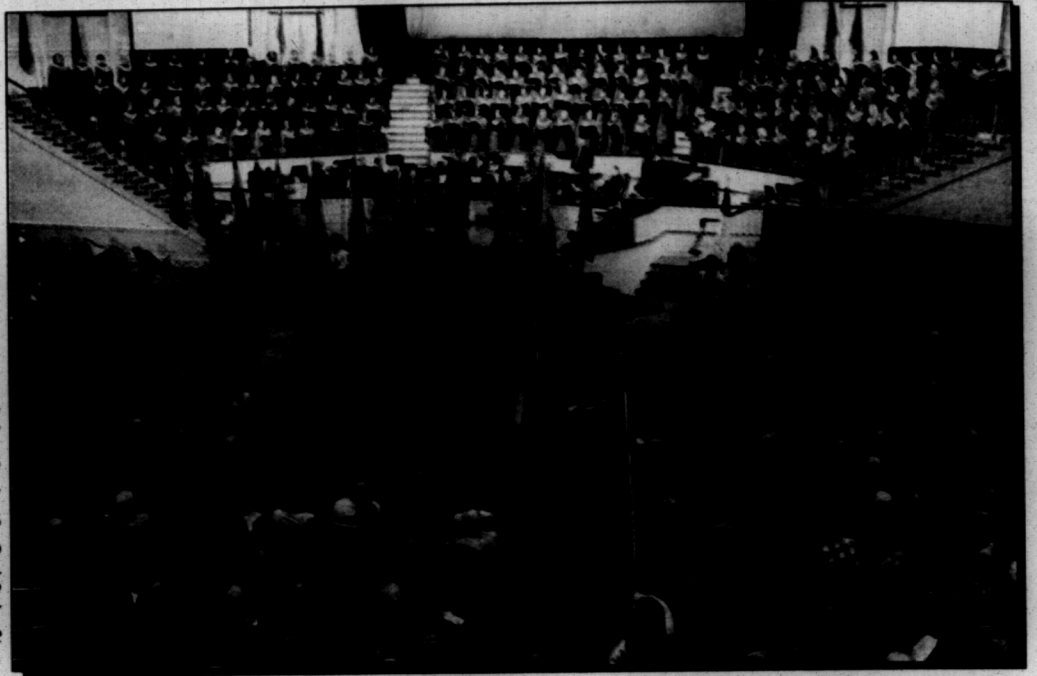
A missionary in southern Asia wrote, "My initial reaction to 911 was just that, reactionary." He expressed his surprise that Islam would condone such horrible actions.

"I cynically wondered who of those we knew in Asia had cheered such horrific things," he said, "but the deep-rooted desire my wife and I have — a conviction that God wants us to live and work among them — overpowered our worries."

"We also realized that the only way these ideas would change would be if someone would share the message with them."

A missionary in the Middle East shared that people in his region now have a greater respect for foreigners who would live outside the United States.

"Now, when I walk the streets of our city, I get looks of amazement as they see a 'real live' American," he wrote. "The people wonder, 'Why would you be here with so much turmoil in the world?' As I communicate that I am there to share the love



NO TURNING BACK — A record 124 new missionaries were appointed just 60 days after the 9/11 attacks, reflecting the determination of Southern Baptists to reach the world with the Gospel regardless of obstacles. (BP photo)

of Jesus Christ, it is obvious that they are searching in their hearts. The people are curious about the gospel of Jesus Christ and are wondering if their religion may just be wrong."

Other missionaries have not found their ministries greatly affected by the attacks. "Our daily activity hasn't been disturbed," wrote one couple in Southeast Asia. "Due to the struggles for daily survival and the history of turmoil and atrocities, the people avoid issues (with which) the rest of the world deals."

"The only time we are aware that Sept. 11 took place occurs when we have to travel. Travel worldwide will never be the same."

The change in travel hinders missionary work in some areas, like Middle America, where Cleve Turner works.

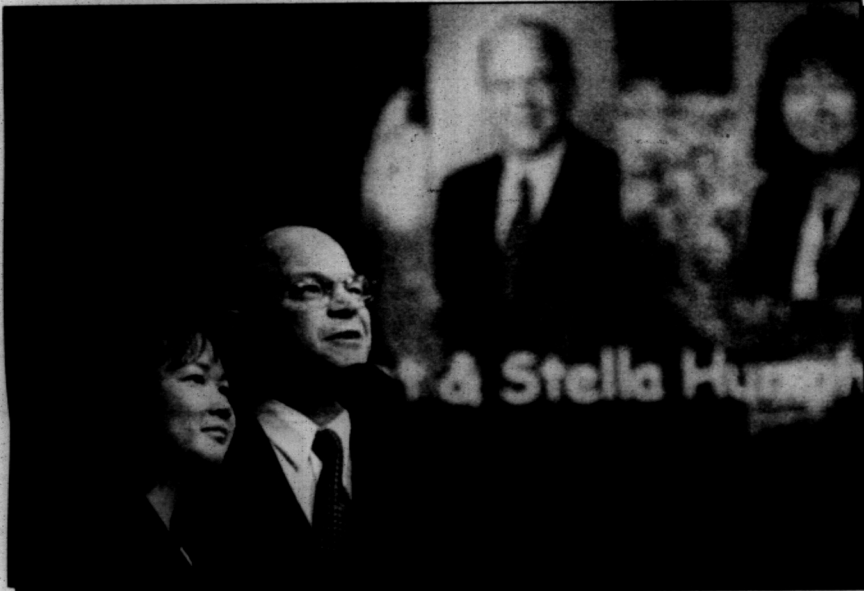
"I am afraid that too many Southern Baptists have turned

inward since 9/11 and are unwilling to step out and commit themselves to the Great Commission," he wrote.

"We are seeing this with the decrease in the number of volunteers coming, although the number is slowly returning to normal as time passes. We are a volunteer-driven project and depend on volunteers to survive," he wrote.

Steve Warren, who was appointed in November to serve in Eastern Europe, wrote that the attacks gave him and his wife a sense of urgency to return to the mission field.

"Our zeal for Christ remains strong and the urgency to share the Word is still great," he said, "but with other countries in our region becoming more unreceptive toward missionaries, we really do not know how long we will be welcome here."



NOT DISCOURAGED — Matt and Stella Humphries were among 124 new Southern Baptist missionaries appointed barely two months after the Sept. 11 attacks. The group was the largest ever appointed by the International Mission Board. (BP Photo)

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
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ERX UYAR MYEGG UYAG

MAA UYA MCR CZ JER

NCJBRW BR E NGCDX

LBUE SCLAP ERX WPAEU

WGCPQ.

GDIA ULARUQ-CRA:

ULARUQ-MAKAR

Clue: U=T

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John Eight: Twenty-Nine.

'Where are the Christians going to be after 09/11?'

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP) — Sometimes Jack (not his real name) cries when he goes up into the mountains overlooking Beirut, Lebanon.

He sees a city with so much potential, yet so much political turmoil and obstacles that get in the way of sharing the Good News of God's love. Jack recently moved to Beirut with his wife and daughter to serve as a strategy coordinator, launching a bold effort to carry the Gospel to the entire city within three years.

The plan includes praying over and getting a Bible into nearly every household in the city of about 400,000 homes.

"From my eyes, I look at it, and we'd be lucky to plant a church in a lifetime," he says. "Yet everything in me says God wants to move."

Jack and his missionary team will recruit churches in the United States to serve as prayer partners and to sponsor and help train Baptist churches in Beirut.

Beirut is a critical city for reaching the Middle East, Jack says. By reaching Beirut, the Gospel will spread rapidly into neighboring countries.

"There are about 50,000 Saudi Arabians in Beirut, 17 people groups," he says. "They can go right back into their host countries and share the Gospel."

Jack admits he and his wife struggled with whether they should go to Beirut, but he realizes he has no choice.

"I read in Acts how Paul spent three years in one location and a whole continent heard the Gospel," he says. "Is it my lack of faith that says it can't happen in Beirut?"

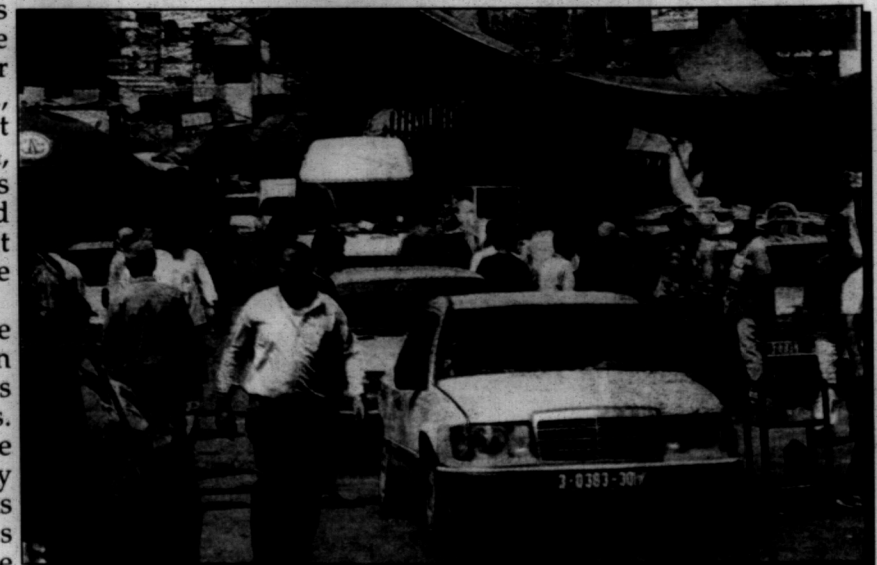
Despite continuous news reports of fighting and religious persecution in the Middle East and other parts of the world, times haven't changed that much, Jack says. Christians have always faced adversity when it comes to sharing the Gospel.

"Where were the Christians when Muhammad was searching?" he asks. "You can go to the cave towns today where the Christians hid. No one was there, and now we have the world's largest false religion."

[Christians] were in the caves, hiding all throughout the Middle East."

It would be easy for Jack and others to stay in the United States, but he knows he's where God wants him to be.

"It's not about a physical war; it's a spiritual war," he says. "Where are the Christians going to be after Sept. 11?"



A LOST WORLD — God's heart breaks over Muslim cities where the joy of his salvation is not known. (BP Photo)